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FIRST
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH



ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR

1868—1918

MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS



CONGREGATION AFTER A MORNING SERVICE.



THE NEW CHURCH.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR
FIRST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS

OSCAR PURN, PASTOR

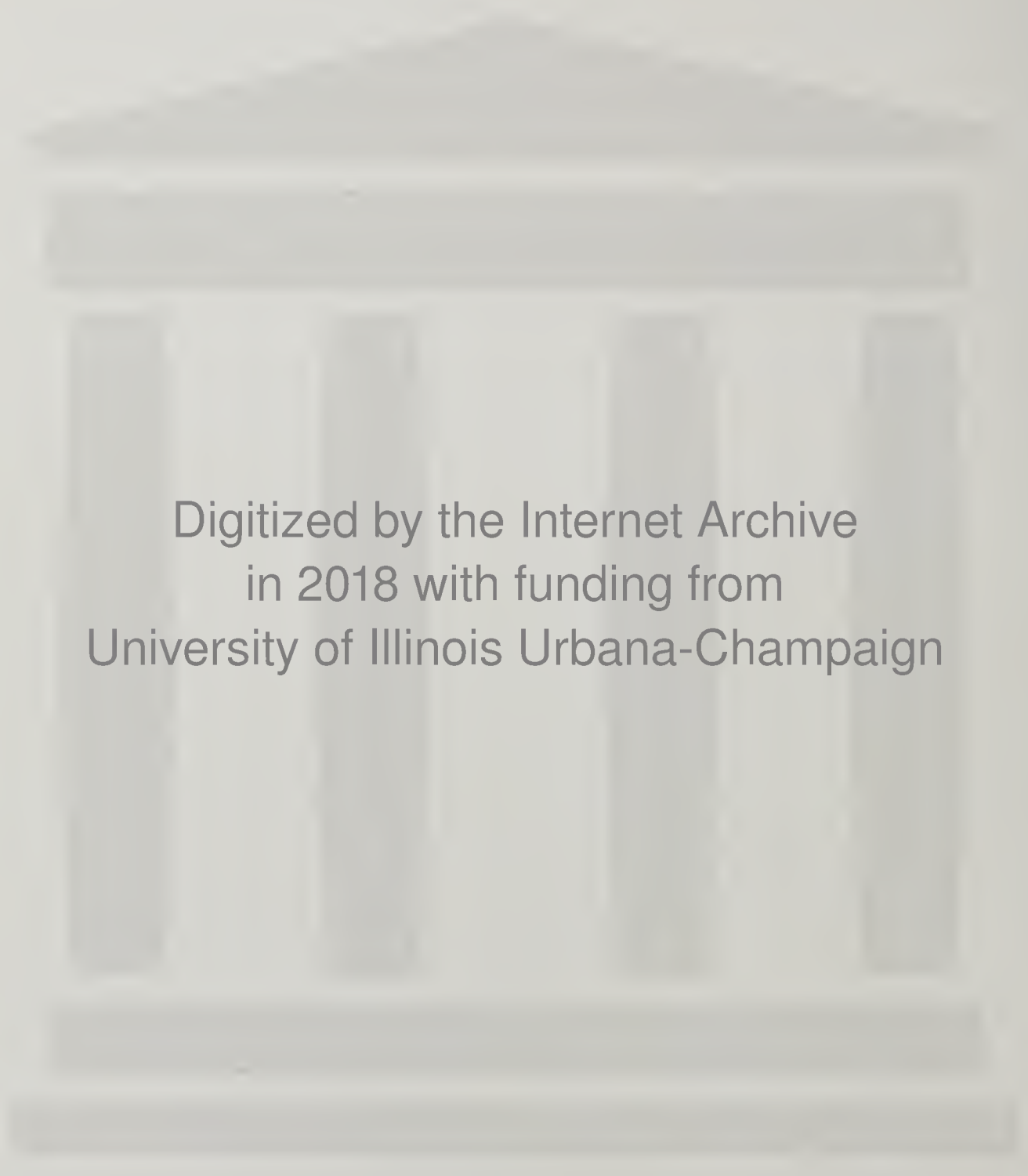
1868—1918

EDITED BY THE CONGREGATION

Monmouth Ill. First Evangelical Lutheran Church



ROCK ISLAND, ILL.
AUGUSTANA BOOK CONCERN, PRINTERS
1918



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PREFACE

The year of Jubilee has been ushered in for our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Monmouth. Fifty years of ceaseless labor, watchings, prayers, victories, joys and endless thanksgiving are entwined with the history of the past.

In order that the experiences of the fathers may not entirely be lost to their children, it is fitting to stop for a review of the past at certain mile-stones along the pathway of life. Such a mile-stone was reached by our congregation ten years ago, when the fortieth anniversary celebration was held and a "Minnesalbum" was issued. But the golden Year of Jubilee—fifty years—beckons to us again for a proper observance of past events. The congregation, therefore, decided at the annual meeting, January 1, 1918, that, whereas our congregation will be fifty years old on the 2nd of February this year, we hold a Jubilee celebration commemorating the organization of our congregation, and that a Jubilee Souvenir be issued. An editorial and managing staff was elected, consisting of the following persons:

The Pastor, Editor in Chief, A. V. Peterson, Mouretz Linman, John Swanson and A. A. Olson, as Assistant Editors; A. A. Johnson, Business Manager, and as Assistants: Fred Nelson, August Hagman, G. T. Melburg, Chas. Dahlgren, Wm. Newman, F. A. Stark and W. H. Olson.

It was also decided to hold this celebration September 13—15, 1918, owing to the more favorable season for such an undertaking.

This staff has worked conscientiously in trying to carry out the wishes of the congregation. Much material which could have been used in attempting to take a retrospect of the activities of our church has had to remain as silent reminders of the unwritten past. We have been fortunate in having access to the old records, as well as the history written by the former pastor ten years ago. But the historical sketch has nevertheless been written in an abbreviated form. As respects the language used in compiling this Souvenir, it was deemed most satisfactory

for the present needs of our church to use the language of the land, but we have tried to give place, as far as possible, for our beautiful mother-tongue.

With the hope of serving our Master and our congregation through this little messenger, and commending the same to your gracious consideration, we dedicate this volume in the Triune name of God to the memory of every faithful servant of God in our church during the past fifty years.

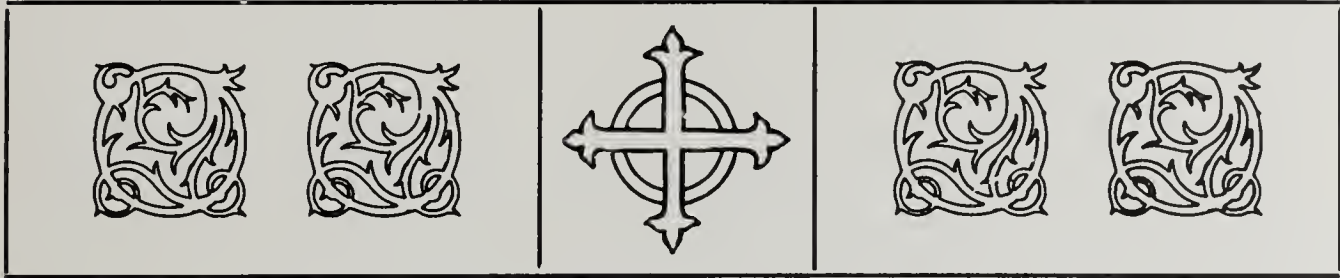
"Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to render to each man according as his work is."

Monmouth, Illinois, September 15, 1918.

Faithfully yours,

OSCAR PURN.





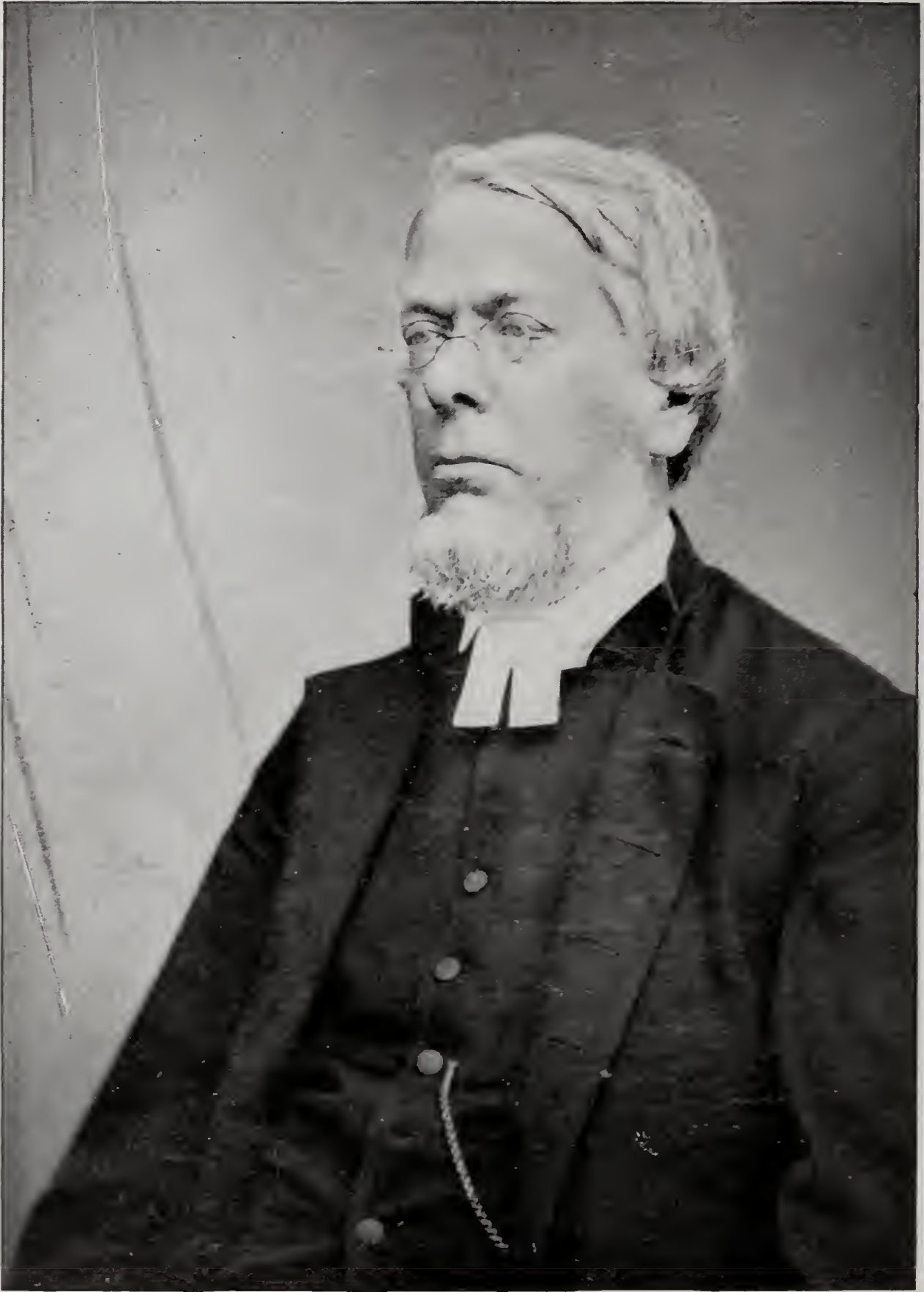
HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

“Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of children of Israel. For the Lord’s portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.” Deut. 32: 7—9.

“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one; and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building.” 1 Cor. 3: 6—9.

FIFTY years of earthly existence is but a brief period of time in the ever increasing years of historical events. Yet in the life of the individual fifty years may have their history to relate, and this can in a greater degree be said of a congregation of individuals. But to chronicle the events that would be considered most vital in the life of a congregation for a period of fifty years, where the greatest of God’s work belongs to the realm of the unseen spiritual realities, would be a most difficult task and could only be accomplished by an inspired pen. We cannot therefore even attempt such a gigantic undertaking, but we shall simply have to confine ourselves to the outward structure of the Christian edifice which has been reared through the instrumentality of God’s faithful servants in this community during the past half century.

We are dealing with the Church of Christ, and hence whatever may have been the experiences in the past, the outlook for the future is always most promising. Christ has said concerning His Church: “The gates of hell shall not prevail against her.” From this we know that the



DR. T. N. HASSELQUIST.
Founder of the congregation.

militant Church must some day become the Church triumphant, but while we are waiting for this consummation, we are ever weaving into the Christian fabric chords of telling events in the different quarters of Christ's extensive kingdom here on earth. It must therefore be a cause for great rejoicing in our midst that we here in Monmouth have the sacred privilege of celebrating an event which took place fifty years ago,



PASTOR HÅKAN OLSON.

Chairman when the congregation was organized.

which has had such wonderful blessed results for time and eternity for those who have been the objects of God's administration of grace in this community, as well as elsewhere.

It is therefore fitting at this fiftieth anniversary celebration that we give heed unto the words of God's faithful servant Moses, "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations; ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee," so that we



MRS. ANNA BECK.



MRS. NELSON ANDERSON.

of the present generation may become the better fitted for the future work of our Church. Looking back over these years, we see so many things looming up before our vision, and truly we feel that the best history of the congregation would be to relate the experiences of every man, woman and child — “the quick and the dead” —, but even if such a story would be interesting indeed, it is out of the question, and hence it must become a fragmentary summary of the principal events.

The guiding hand of God has ever directed the events of His Church, and what experiences of grace and blessings as well as reverses our church has made during these fifty years must be ascribed to His loving providence. We can only lift our hearts in gratitude unto God for His unspeakable mercies and blessings showered upon His unworthy children, and we say with the Psalmist: “The Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.”

The activities which led up to the organization of our congregation may be said to have started as early as 1852 and 1853 among the early settlers from the Scandinavian countries. True to their religious practice in their homeland, they gathered for worship in the various settlements in rudely constructed sanctuaries. Galesburg was such a center of influence in the early fifties, and it was here that the nucleus of our congregation found their spiritual nurture at first under the kind leadership of Dr. T. N. Hasselquist, who also at the request of the Lutherans living in Monmouth and vicinity at that time continued to minister unto the scattered flock for a few years, which resulted in the organization of a congregation in the year of 1859, numbering at that time about thirteen communicants. Of these we still have with us Mrs. Anna Beck, the sole survivor of the first organization. The services were held principally at the Court House. Services continued to be held quite regularly until the year 1863, when Dr. Hasseuquist left Galesburg for his duties as pastor of the Lutheran church at Paxton. This left the little flock without a shepherd, and the consequence was, as is always the case with a shepherdless flock, that the few members were scattered in various directions, due also to some extent to sectarian influence. The sad but inevitable dissolution of the first organization became a gradual reality, but a few staunch and faithful Lutherans were nevertheless intent upon hearing the Gospel preached to them in the Lutheran way, and through the kind services of Pastors Winqvist of Galesburg, A. Andreen of Swedona and Håkan Olson of New Sweden, Iowa, occasional services were held in Monmouth, encouraging the few Lutherans to remain



PASTOR AUGUST JOHNSON.



DR. J. E. FLOREN.

faithful to their mother-church. Those who then felt the need of their church home gathered on the 2nd of February, 1868, in the Court House and decided in the name of the Triune God to reorganize the scattered forces, and it is from this date that we reckon the beginning of our congregation, which makes this year of 1918 the year of Jubilee in the history of our church.

We consider it proper to quote the minutes of the organization meeting, whereas this has particular historical value. The following are the minutes of the proceedings of this meeting:

"Minutes of the public meeting held by the several Scandinavians in Monmouth, Warren Co., Ill., the 2nd of February, 1868, for the purpose of organizing a congregation. At a public service January 6th of this year, conducted by Pastor A. W. Dahlsten from Galesburg, Ill., announcement had been made of the purpose of this meeting on this day.

"The meeting was called to order, and Pastor Håkan Olson from New Sweden, Iowa, was elected president and Olaf Nelson, secretary. It was decided: 1. That we here assembled in the triune name of God organize ourselves into a congregation with the name Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Monmouth, Warren County, Illinois.

"2. That we adopt the unaltered articles of faith of the Lutheran Church as the confession of the congregation, and as soon as circumstances permit, we shall adopt a constitution to govern the same.

"3. That the congregation shall apply for admission into the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America.

"Then followed the election of officers, as follows: As deacons, John Beck and Olof Nelson were elected for two years, and Åke Nelson and N. Holm for one year. As trustees, Peter Ringdahl and Gustaf Wedelin were elected for two years, and Johannes Jacobson was elected for one year. May the grace and blessings of God rest over the decisions of this meeting.

Ut supra in fidem

H. OLSON, Chairman.

OLAF NELSON, Secretary."

The congregation numbered at the time of the organization twenty-eight communicants and thirteen children, making a total of forty-one members. The old records show the following names as chartered members: Mr. and Mrs. John Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Gustaf Wedelin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ringdahl, Mr. and Mrs. Åke Nelson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jakob Römer, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Anderson and



PASTOR AUGUST JOHNSON AND FAMILY.

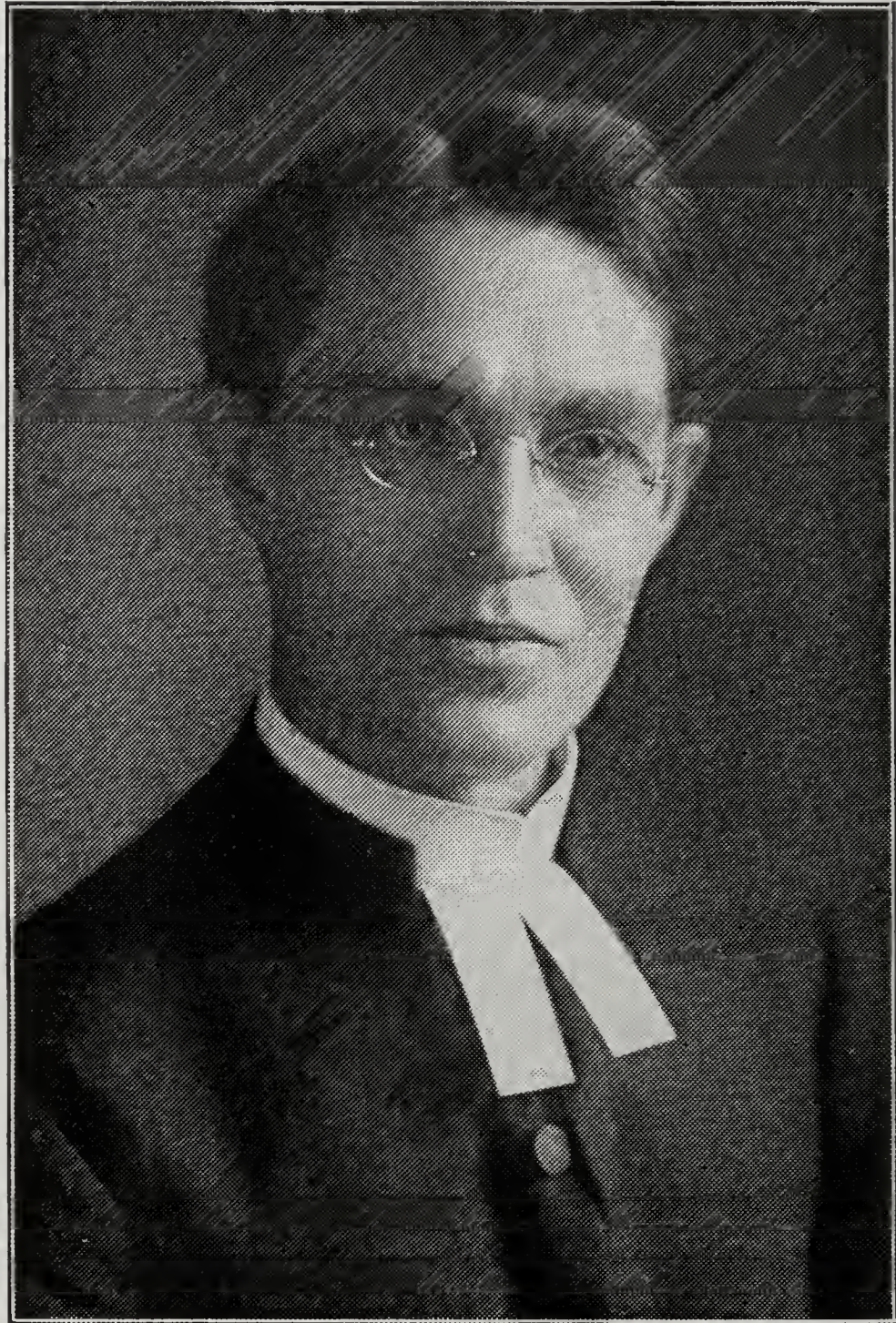
family, Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Jakobson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Swen Jacobson, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kall, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lander and family, Nels Holm, H. P. Björklund, H. M. Ljungquist, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swenson, Carl Olson, Olof Nelson, and Miss Christine Olson (now Mrs. Nels Anderson).

The following year, on the 15th of August, the congregation held a special meeting, presided over by Pastor A. Andreen from Swedona, Ill., at which time the constitution of the Augustana Synod was adopted and a decision to build a church was passed, the dimensions to be 34x50 and 18 ft. high. The building committee consisted of Trued Nordgren, James Larson, Peter Ringdahl, Gustaf Wedelin, Peter Kall and John Beck. This committee should also select a suitable building site. These decisions were executed the following year, or 1870. The lots selected by the committee were at that time on the outskirts of the city, but being a donation by Mr. Wood, the congregation considered it advantageous to accept with thanks the kind offer, and the first house of worship was thus constructed, making it, however, ten feet shorter than originally decided.

At the congregational meeting on the 7th of June, 1870, the following were added to the building committee: Måns Cassel, A. Nelson and Mr. Näslund. The trustees were elected as a subscription committee, and their efforts brought forth a sum of \$878.61, varying from \$100.00 to \$1.00, which in those days must be considered excellently done, in view of the fact that our people were only poor immigrants, having recently come from the fatherland.

Having now a church home, it became necessary to secure a preacher to minister to the flock. It was decided at the congregational meeting held January 16, 1871, that "service be held every Sunday at 10:30 a. m., and, in the absence of a pastor, then the deacons shall read out of some well known postil." It was also decided at this meeting that the deacons should secure some one to lead the congregational singing and, if possible, to see to it that a choir be organized. It is quite significant that at this early period they found it necessary to decide that at least two classes in Sunday-school, which was to be held every Sunday, should use the English language. At a special meeting November 26, 1871, the congregation extended a call to the catechist Mr. N. Nordling from Galesburg to preach and have charge of the congregational work in Monmouth. This call was accepted, and Mr. Nordling worked with seeming success until 1873.

In respect to church discipline in these pioneer days we find that they were more strict than is the customary practice of to-day in our church. They even passed the rigid rule, that if any member was in arrears in



PASTOR T. A. CONRAD.

his membership dues for one year, he should be stricken from the Church Records. Such a procedure might work havoc in many congregations to-day.

At a congregational meeting held February 6, 1873, it was decided to extend a permanent call to Mr. N. Nordling, with the understanding that he apply for ordination to the ministry as soon as possible. This,

however, never materialized, and hence the following year, on the 26th of December, the congregation extended a call to the pastor of Knoxville, Ill., Pastor C. Waleen, to preach in Monmouth every third Sunday, for which services he was to receive \$200.00 annually. Pastor Waleen had charge of the congregation for a period of one year, and again, on the 3rd of December, 1875, a call was issued to Pastor A. W. Holmgren from Biggsville, but unfortunately this pastor was removed from the ministry at the following synodical meeting, which left our church again without a shepherd.

At a special congregational meeting held October 29, 1876, it was decided to extend a call, together with the congregation at Biggsville, to Pastor Elias Petterson of Rock Island, and to the great joy of the congregation, Pastor Petterson accepted the call and labored successfully for a period of over two years. It was during his pastorate that the first parsonage was built, in the year 1877, costing in the neighborhood of \$1,000.00. This parsonage was not to be compared with modern houses, yet it was a comfortable home in the early stages of our church's activities.

Pastor Petterson, however, did not remain very long with the congregation. Having a call to the Nebraska Conference, he decided to leave Monmouth in the fall of 1878. Again the congregation was without a shepherd, and at the annual meeting January 19, 1879, a call was extended to Mr. L. Swenson of Galesburg to become temporary leader of the flock. The call was accepted, and Mr. Swenson continued his services until 1881. In the meantime calls had been issued to the theological student Mr. M. P. Odén of Rock Island and Pastor Nils Forsander of Kingston, Iowa, and, later on, to the theological student Mr. Martin Almquist, but none found it possible to accept.

Students from Rock Island cared for the congregation during the years 1882—1884, among whom we find Gustaf Petterson, Martin Almquist, C. E. Elving, Österholm, G. A. Brandelle, the latter being now the honored president of the Augustana Synod.

At a special meeting held January 29, 1885, the congregation issued a call to the theological student Mr. Wm. Swanson, who, however, did not accept, whereupon another meeting was held February 26, 1885, and a call extended to the theological student Mr. J. E. Florén. This call was accepted, and after his ordination Pastor Florén entered upon his pastoral duties the second Sunday of July, 1885.

With the beginning of pastor Florén's pastorate the congregation



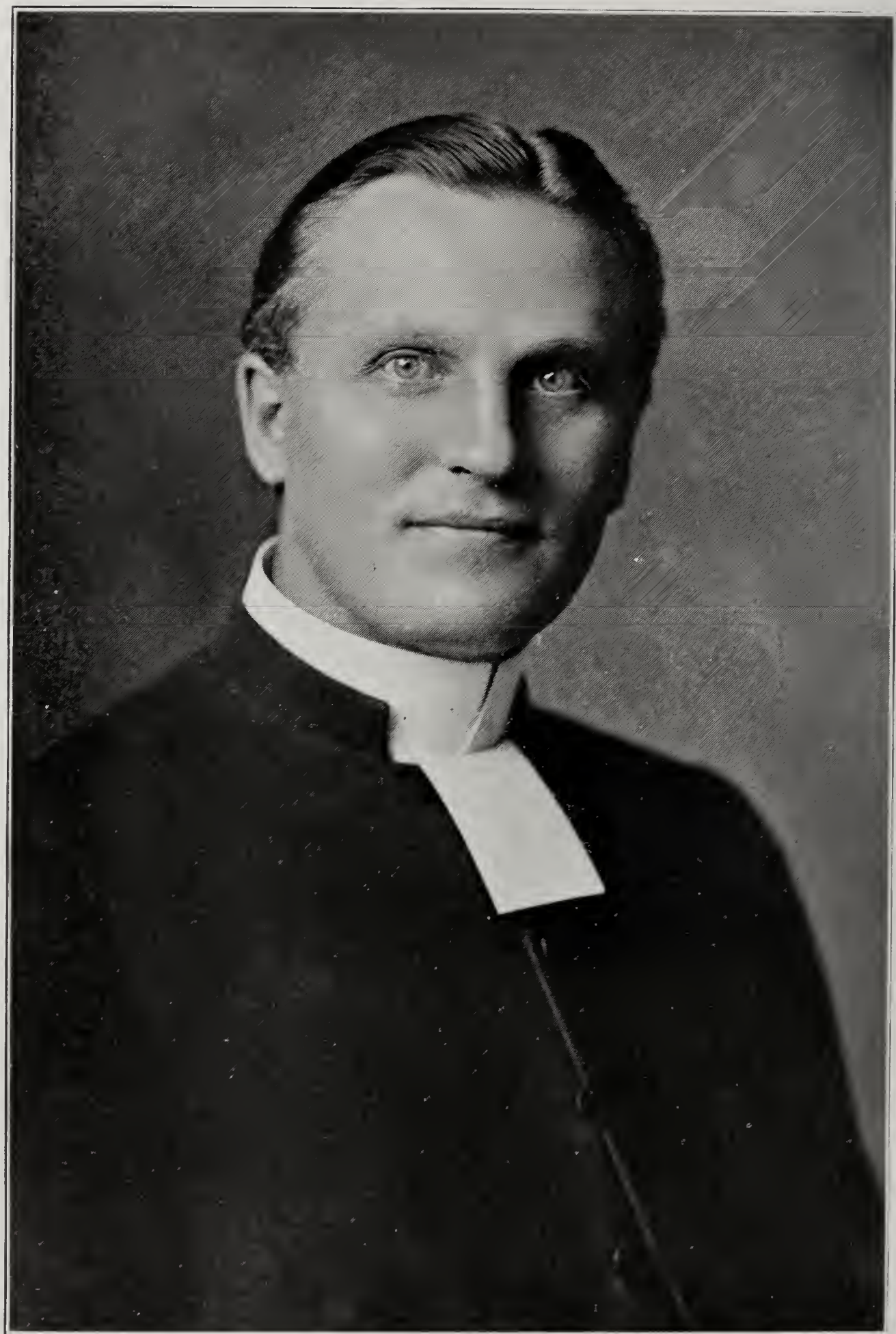
PASTOR CONRAD AND FAMILY.

entered upon a new era. The pioneer days through which the congregation had passed had been days of trials and hardships in many respects, but God's guiding hand of providence had been with the little flock, so that the work which He had begun should not perish from the earth. With the sowing that had been done during these seventeen years or more, some fruit had to be in evidence. With youthful enthusiasm Pastor Florén grappled with the problems confronting the church at that time. Rigorous discipline was exercised, and many had to appear before the church council to answer for their conduct. Strange as it may seem, while such rigid rules were enforced, the congregation prospered, which can only be explained on the basis of an inner purging which was wholesome indeed. The congregation learned to love and respect their enthusiastic and forceful leader, and it was therefore with much regret that, after a pastorate of only two years, the congregation was compelled to accept his resignation and yield to the wishes of the church at Salina, Kansas.

The congregation had in the meantime extended a call to Pastor August Johnson of Andover at a meeting held March 13, 1887. Great joy filled the hearts of the members when he accepted and entered upon his duties as pastor of this church September 1, 1887. Having lost an enthusiastic leader in the departure of Pastor Florén to another field of labor, they gained a firm and pietistic leader in the arrival of Pastor Johnson. His pastorate, which extended over a period of nearly twenty years, can be characterized as a period of "spiritual upbuilding" of the congregation. The outward activities received also an orderly attention, so that the congregation grew from a membership of about two hundred to about four hundred and sixty members, and during this time the Dorcas Society, as well as the Young People's Society, or Luther League, lived a healthy life.

The first church building and parsonage were renovated and added to in the year 1893, so that it could be said at that time that the congregation had a "beautiful and commodious church with only an indebtedness of about \$500.00."

The following years of "hard times" in our country, the years of 1893—1896, affected the church activities to quite an extent. But while our people bore the burdens of poverty and hardships, they also learnt to trust in the unfailing arm of God the more implicitly, and the result was a more spiritually alive congregation, indicated by the reports that "services have been better attended than previously."



PASTOR OSCAR PURN.

At the annual meeting of 1897 the language question was again brought to the foreground, and a committee was elected to take under advisement the introduction of English into the Sunday-school. Pastor Johnson writes thus regarding this question: "It is evident that we cannot stem this tide which confronts us, and we must see to it and be alert so that we may be able to exist when the new conditions will arise."

The succeeding years were years of external growth for the congregation, and at the annual meeting January 1, 1903, Pastor Johnson reports that, owing to the bequest of Peter Erling, amounting to about \$3,000.00, and the constant increase in membership, there were many voices raised for the erection of a new church edifice. Though it took ten years before these voices had realized their "song," the congregation may consider itself fortunate in abiding the opportune time for the building of our beautiful house of worship. At a special meeting February 7, 1903, it was decided to replace the old pews of 1871 by new ones, a platform was to be built to extend over the whole front of the church, and the church was to be carpeted. At another special meeting held September 22, 1903, it was decided to build an addition to the church. This addition was completed in the spring of 1904 and was known as the "Luther Hall," which served a good purpose for social meetings and other gatherings for a number of years.

After a long and successful pastorate, Pastor Johnson, upon receiving a call from the church at La Porte, Indiana, resigned from this church October 12, 1906, and at the beginning of the next year moved to his last field of labor, where he continued until his death, July 14, 1916. It may be said of Pastor Johnson's service to this congregation: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

The congregation was again without a shepherd, and calls were issued to several pastors. Pastor O. N. Olson of Chicago was called twice, Pastor J. T. Kraft of Elgin, Ill., once, Prof. A. W. Kjellstrand was called to fill the vacancy, and finally, at an extra meeting held April 3, 1907, a call was issued to Pastor Titus A. Conrad of Swedona. This call was accepted, to the great joy of the congregation. In the meantime the congregation decided to build a new and modern parsonage for their new pastor's family, and a committee consisting of the following men had this in charge: Wm. H. Olson, Gus T. Melburg, John Nelson, John L. Martin, A. A. Johnson, J. S. Olson, Swan Johnson, J. E. Gagnelius, Nels N. Levine, Swan N. Linman, A. L. Martin and Louis

Levine. This parsonage was well nigh completed when Pastor Conrad entered upon his duties, September 1, 1907.

With youthful enthusiasm Pastor Conrad began his new duties in the city of Monmouth. At the first annual meeting at which he presided he recommended in his pastoral report that a "new church be built, if we are to exist in this place." This question was a yearly "problem," until it was finally solved at the annual meeting January 1, 1912.



PASTOR AND MRS. OSCAR PURN.

In the early part of his pastorate Pastor Conrad organized several of our societies, which have been a great financial aid to the congregation during the preparatory period for the new church property. The Martha Society was organized November 21, 1907, the Eleanor Aid Society April 9, 1908, the Lutheran Workers October 15, 1909, the Mission Society having been organized during the vacancy, May 16, 1907.

The ever active Luther League took upon itself to install a pipe organ during the year of 1908, and at the annual meeting of 1909 it was reported that this had been accomplished, that the instrument, purchased from the Bennett Organ Co. of Rock Island, costing \$2,850.00, had been paid for, and that there still was a balance in the Luther League treasury. It is the same organ, rebuilt, that yet to-day serves to transport our minds heavenward by its beautiful and mellow tones.

At the annual meeting January 1, 1910, a decision was made that a "subscription of \$20,000.00 be taken and no building operation be undertaken until said amount is gathered, unless the congregation otherwise decides at some subsequent meeting." The original plan was to gather this sum during a period of five years, and that each communicant should contribute \$10.00 yearly for five years to this building fund. But another year's experience had infused more enthusiasm and aspiration, and it was thought best to raise at least \$30,000.00 before beginning building operations. But as time went on and Pastor Conrad with his energetic spirit saw great opportunities for our church in the future, the building fund grew in dimensions until it reached the sum of \$42,710.01 at the annual meeting January 1, 1915.

But it was not enough to gather a building fund only. The question of where to locate the new church had also to be solved. The congregation realized that the location where the old church stood was not so desirable, hence, at the initiative of the Men's Society, it was finally, after a great deal of discussion, decided to dispose of the old property and a more centrally located property be procured. At a special meeting October 11, 1910, it was decided to purchase a lot on Broadway and B Street for a sum of \$4,700. This lot, however, was not fully satisfactory, and hence it was decided at the annual meeting January 1, 1912, to exchange this lot for a larger and more suitable lot on the corner of First Avenue and B Street, which belonged to two of our members, having been purchased originally with the view of locating our church on this beautiful corner. It was also decided at this meeting to proceed with the building of a new church, and the following committee was elected to execute the plans: Pastor Titus A. Conrad, chairman, J. W. Pearson, Gus T. Melburg, A. A. Johnson, A. L. Martin, August Hagman, Swan Johnson and Wm. H. Olson. After the committee had worked out a plan for the new church edifice by visiting other churches in the conference, they selected Mr. A. T. Simmons from Bloomington as architect, who drew the plans of the present church, which were



MOURITZ LINMAN,
Deacon and Secretary of Congregation.



A. A. CARLSON,
Deacon and Treasurer of Poor Fund.

accepted by the committee with very few changes. The contract was let July 8, 1912, to Mr. Wm. Kuhne of Rantoul, Ill., for a sum of \$31,034.00. About \$700.00 was added to this sum for changes made from the original plan. Adding the cost of the interior finish and furnishings of the church, as well as the cost of the site, the total cost of the church amounted at that time to \$52,504.26. The foundation was laid in the fall of 1912, but on account of unavoidable delays, the corner stone was not laid until June 22, 1913, at which time Dr. M. C. Ranseen officiated, assisted by the pastors of the district. The building was completed at the beginning of 1914, so that dedicatory services could be held on Sunday, February 8, 1914. This service, conducted by the conference president, Dr. M. C. Ranseen, assisted by Dr. Gustav Andreen and the pastors of the district, marks the culmination of energetic and persistent efforts on the part of the pastor and his liberal and sacrificing congregation.

Though the congregation had built a new parsonage for Pastor Conrad's upon their arrival in Monmouth in 1907, yet, because of the new location selected for the church, it was deemed best to dispose of the parsonage as well as the old church. This deal was made with the West Side Presbyterian Church in 1913, on the condition that they would get possession of the same as soon as our congregation could move into its new church. The congregation therefore at the annual meeting of 1914 decided to build a new parsonage alongside its beautiful new church building, and a building committee was elected, consisting of the following men: Pastor T. A. Conrad, chairman, J. S. Olson, John Nelson, Chas. Dahlgren, John Martin and Chas. Strand. The contract was let at once to Mr. Wm. Kuhne. The new and convenient parsonage was completed in June, at a cost of \$6,098.23, and upon their return from their vacation Pastor Conrad's moved into one of the most beautiful parsonages that have been built in recent years within our Synod.

The congregation was now equipped for intensive and aggressive work. Pastor Conrad had at the beginning of his pastorate started a parish paper, called "Our Church," and through this he had been able to reach the ears of many in respect to what he desired to be done both as to the external as well as the internal conditions of the church. He was ably assisted by Mr. Arvid Peterson, as assistant editor, Mr. Gus T. Melburg, as business manager, as well as others who lent their time and efforts to the success of our parish paper. This medium was par-



A. A. OLSON, Deacon.



J. O. NELSON,
Deacon and Secretary of the Board of Deacons.

ticularly helpful in the work of gathering funds for the new church property, which required persistent efforts and much prayer and sacrificing both on the part of the pastor as well as the members. But God blessed these efforts and crowned the undertaking with success.

During Pastor Conrad's time the internal condition of the church had also received its due consideration in spite of the many outward duties. When he entered upon his duties, the congregation numbered 460 members, and it grew during his pastorate to 534 communicants and 160 children, or a total of 694 members. The societies have been conducted along the lines of order and efficiency, and have been excellent handmaidens in the work of our church. We can truthfully say that Pastor Conrad together with a faithful staff of co-laborers have accomplished a monumental work, which will ever bear testimony to the devotedness to duty and the love for our church.

But changes are brought about as well in the Kingdom of God as in nature, and so, after having enjoyed the fruit of his labors for a period of about two years, he decided that a move might prove advantageous to him and his family. Having received a call to the pastorate of East Sveadahl—St. James, Minn., he resigned the 13th of December, 1916, and the congregation acted upon the resignation at the annual meeting in January, 1917. Naturally the congregation felt reluctant in accepting the resignation, in view of the many years of faithful service that Pastor Conrad had devoted to this church, but feeling that God called him to another field of activity, he was obedient unto this voice, and hence preached his farewell sermon on the 13th of May, 1917, and after nine years and nine months of successful labors departed on the following day for his present field of activity.

At the adjourned meeting of the congregation held on January 31, 1917, the congregation extended a unanimous call to the undersigned to become Pastor Conrad's successor. After due and prayerful consideration, your present pastor found it in accordance with God's will to accept the call, and on Memorial Day, or the 30th of May, 1917, came to Monmouth and preached the initial sermon on Sunday, June 3.

Sad as it seemed to leave our field in the great metropolis, Chicago, we were at once made glad by the hearty welcome we received by all our people in Monmouth, and our earnest prayer to God is that the mutual good will and confidence will always exist between the congregation and the pastor's family, so that our years of labor may be both many and fruitful among you. We desire not greater distinction than



J. A. SWANSON, Deacon.



JOHN E. STARK,
Deacon, Sexton and Treasurer of Sunday-school.

that we may be counted worthy to be the *servants* of Jesus Christ to the salvation of dearly bought souls entrusted to our care.

It would seem almost preposterous for your pastor to claim that any noteworthy history had been made during his year and one-third of activity. But what we record we desire to be to the glory of God. The congregation has rallied around the pastor with unusual devotedness. Considerable activity has been manifested in all parts of our extensive church work. We have added eighty-eight communicants and twenty-four children to our membership, confirmed the largest confirmation class in the history of the church, numbering forty-two, including the adult class of nine members.

In the early part of our pastorate the question of how to rid our church of the \$14,000.00 debt, which rested on the church property upon our arrival, was earnestly considered by the Church Board, and at the very opportune moment, when we celebrated the 400th anniversary of the Reformation, we launched the campaign for cancelling the church debt. By former subscriptions it had been reduced by that time to \$12,000.00, so that our aim was to raise this amount. We raised about half at the initial attempt, and then we divided the Church Board into seven groups, who, in a systematic way, visited every member, and the result was that on the 30th of December we had reached our goal. The total amount of indebtedness had been covered by promissory notes, cash or reliable promises. Imagine the joy that possessed the hearts of our people when this burden was lifted! Though all has not yet been cashed in, it is but a small part, and we consider our church at the 50th anniversary celebration free of all financial debt.

A Jubilee Chorus was organized on July 23, 1917, with about sixty voices, with the purpose in view of rendering some suitable cantata at the Reformation festival, as well as to be ready for service at the Jubilee festivities of our own church. This chorus, as well as our choir, have done excellent service in the musical part of our church work.

Heeding the urgent call from the headquarters of Lutheran activity in this country, a Brotherhood was organized on the 17th of February, 1918, or rather, the former Men's Society was revived, having now a membership of about one hundred members.

This organization headed the campaign for the welfare of our Lutheran soldiers and sailors, and the result was \$1,416.00 from our congregation. When we consider how our people have responded to the country's call for money and have given thirty-three of its sons to the



CHAS. DAHLGREN,
Trustee and Financial Secretary.



ELMER CARLSON, Trustee.

country's service and liberally contributed toward the church debt, as well as church work in general, we feel that our church has been particularly active during the past year.

But the brightest side of all is the encouraging fact that we have had large and attentive audiences at our services and inspiring moments at our large communion services. For all these blessings we give God thanks and honor.

To do justice to individuals, deserving of mention in this kind of a historical sketch, is impossible. Men and women have woven their lives' history into the history of our church. We cannot, therefore, begin to mention individuals, except as they have appeared on important committees. But we cannot help referring to the only two living chartered members, namely, Mrs. Anna Beck and Mrs. Christine Anderson. All others have already passed to their reward.

The following pastoral acts have been performed during the past fifty years: Baptisms 875, confirmed 405, married 244, deaths 146.

The congregation has contributed \$30,700.55 to missions and other benevolent causes, \$129,884.87 to local purposes. Total \$160,585.42. The church property is now valued at \$65,000.00.

The total membership is to-day 610 communicants and 162 children, or 772 members.

To prophesy the future events of our church for the next fifty years is beyond human power. We know not what God may have in store for us. But we are certain and we do believe that He shall guide us in the future "to pastures green and beside the still waters." That His unfailing hand of providence will mark our pathway and that, if we "be faithful unto death, He shall give us the crown of life."

My church! my church! my dear old church!
My fathers' and my own!
On Prophets and Apostles built,
And Christ the corner stone!
All else beside, by storm or tide,
May yet be overthrown;
But not my church, my dear old church,
My fathers' and my own!

My church! my church! my dear old church!
I love her ancient name;
And God forbid, a child of hers
Should ever do her shame!



CHAS. ISAACSON, Trustee.



A. A. JOHNSON, Trustee,
Treasurer of Congregation and Lutheran Brotherhood.

Her mother-care, I'll ever share;
Her child I am alone,
Till He who gave me to her arms
Shall call me to His own.

My church! my church! I love my church,
For she doth lead me on
To Zion's Palace Beautiful,
Where Christ my Lord hath gone,
From all below, she bids me go,
To Him, the Life, the Way,
The Truth to guide my erring feet
From darkness into day.

Monmouth, Illinois, September 15, 1918.

OSCAR PURN, Pastor.





FRED L. NELSON, Trustee.



W. J. NEWMAN, Trustee.



BYGGANDET PÅ DEN LAGDA GRUNDEN

“Efter den Guds nåd, som blifvit mig gifven, har jag, såsom en vis byggmästare, lagt grunden, och en annan bygger därpå; men hvar och en må se till, huru han bygger därpå. Ty en annan grund kan ingen lägga än den som är lagd, hvilken är Jesus Kristus. Men om någon på denna grund bygger med guld, silfver, dyrbara stenar, trä, hö, eller strå, så skall hvars och ens verk blifva uppenbart, ty dagen skall göra det klart, emedan han skall uppenbaras med eld, och elden skall pröfva, hurudant hvars och ens verk är. Om det verk, som någon har byggt därpå, varder bestående, skall han få lön. Men varder någons verk förbrändt, så skall han gå miste om den; men själf skall han varda frälst, dock såsom genom eld.” 1 Kor. 3: 10—15.

Älskade församling!

E MEDAN jag blifvit ombedd af eder pastor att skrifva några ord för eder minnesskrift öfver ofvan angifna ämne, vill jag söka efterkomma denna hans vänliga begäran. Min tioåriga vistelse bland eder i Monmouth kännetecknades af rastlös verksamhet. Det var dock lyckliga år jag tillbringade där. Gud välsignade våra händers verk. Och med få undantag stod församlingen alltid som ett helt på min sida. Nästan i hvarje fall fick jag min vilja fram, fastän det emellanåt hände, att en och annan satte sig på tvären. Sedan jag under bön till Gud blifvit öfvertygad om det rättmätiga uti en sak, så hängaf jag mig med all min energi och hela min själ uti genomdrifvandet och utförandet af densamma, i trots af hvad eller hvem som än stod i vägen. Och då jag nu ser tillbaka uppå det hela, så fattar jag mer än någonsin att om jag icke så gjort, så kunde jag väl ha varit vän med en och annan, som visade mig inte så lite afvoghet, men mycket litet hade då blifvit utfördt af det, som verkligen blef gjordt. Tusende minnen uppdyka för mitt sinne vid tanken uppå min verksamhetstid i Monmouth — minnen utaf både med- och motgång, af både glädje och sorg. Och jag



F. A. STARK,
Trustee and Secretary of Church Board.



J. W. PEARSON,
Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

tackar både Gud och församlingen för både det ena och det andra. Fick jag under de åren vara till någon nytta uti församlingsverksamheten, så tackar jag ödmjukt min trofaste Frälsare därför. För all kärlek, välvilja, tillmötesgående, tålamod och öfverseende, som jag var föremål för, tackar jag eder, älskade församlingsmedlemmar, af hela mitt hjärta.

Den första söndagen i september 1907 höll jag min inträdespredikan, och den andra söndagen i maj 1918 predikade jag afsked. Sent kommer jag att glömma den senare dagen. Då blef det klart för mig och de mina, kanske mer än någonsin, att vi hade många uppriktiga, tillgifna och trofasta vänner i Monmouth. Af principskäl har jag icke stått i någon förbindelse med församlingen, sedan jag afflyttade; ty jag har den öfvertygelsen, att sedan en pastor afflyttat från en församling, bör han icke blanda sig i församlingsverksamheten därstädes.

Det tillkommer nu icke mig att här skrifva en historik öfver församlingens lif och verksamhet under de år jag vistades i Monmouth. Den kommer att skrivas af en annan penna, och jag skall därför icke säga något därom. Jag skall i stället söka hålla mig till det ämne som är mig anvisadt: *“Byggandet på den lagda grunden.”*

Uti de ofvan anförda bibelorden säger oss aposteln Paulus, att den kyrkliga verksamheten är, i både inre och yttre bemärkelse, ett bygande. Grunden är lagd af Gud själf. “En annan grund kan ingen lägga än den som är lagd, hvilken är Jesus Kristus. Allt byggnadsarbete, som icke utföres på den grunden, är fruktlöst, huru vackert det än må se ut. Det som är byggdt på sanden, det faller, när vindarna börja blåsa och slagregnet störtar fram. Ingenting är viktigare än att vi tillse, att vi bygga på en fast och säker grundval. Men hafva vi en solid grundval, så kunna vi tryggt börja vårt byggnadsarbete.

Det är dock, enligt aposteln's ord, icke nog med att man bygger, utan man måste se till, *huru* man bygger. Många synas tro, att bara de äro verksamma i det kyrkliga arbetet, så gör det detsamma, hvad de göra eller huru de göra det. Om mycken s. k. kyrklig verksamhet kan man därför sannerligen säga såsom gumman sade, som klippte grisen: “Mycket väsen och lite ull.” Man springer hit och dit och pratar och fjäskar med folk, men då man börjar undersöka hvad som blifvit uträttadt, så finner man — ingenting.

Byggnaden måste i allt öfverensstämma med grundvalen. Den får icke vara hvarken större eller mindre. Ritningarna för hela byggnaden äro gjorda af den store arkitekten, Gud själf, som lagt grundvalen. Dessa ritningar eller planer har han öfverlämnat åt oss med uppmaning



ALFRED MELBURG,
Assistant Manager of "Vår Församling."



CARL SWANSON, Trustee.

att följa dem noggrant. Och skola vi lyckas uti vårt byggnadsarbete, så måste vi följa dessa ritningar och det i minsta detaljer. Vi komma visserligen uti arbetet att sammanträffa med sådana, som skola finna många fel med dessa ritningar och som hafva nya sådana, hvilka de komma att insistera på att vi skola följa. De komma äfvenså att påpeka, att det icke åtminstone är nödvändigt att i små detaljer följa de där, enligt deras mening, utslitna och gammalmodiga planerna. "Vi äro ju fria varelser, och vi böra väl följa med vår tid", ropas det ifrån alla håll. Men den som lyssnar till dessa ord och följer deras "moderna" planer, han skall förr eller senare se sig grufligt bedragen. *Guds ord är den enda regeln och rättesnöret för människans tro och lefverne.*

Det är äfvenså af största vikt att vi äro på vår vakt, då det gäller val af det material, som vi skola begagna oss utaf uti vårt byggande. Det finnes *ett* berg, men blott ett, som Gud själf skapat och som han hänvisat oss till, ur hvilket han vill, att vi skola taga alla byggnadsmaterialierna för vår salighetsbyggnad. Det berget är outtömligt. Där finnes guld, silfver och dyrbara stenar i mängd. Och de fås där fritt och för intet af hvar och en, som kommer för att hämta dem. Visserligen höra vi från höger och vänster: "för gammalt", äfven när det gäller byggnadsmaterialierna. Man tror sig hafva funnit nya byggnadsämnen, som öfverträffa de där gamla. Ja, hvad bjudas vi icke på från predikstolarna i våra dagar här och där! Det är en evig skam, att det skall finnas så många, som ännu försöka att uppföra en salighetsbyggnad utaf trä, hö och strå, när det finnes så godt om guld, silfver och dyrbara stenar.

Det är af evighetsbetydelse att vi se till, *huru* och af hvad materialier vi bygga, ty, säger aposteln, "elden skall pröfva, hurudant hvars och ens verk är. Om det verk, som någon har byggt därpå, varder bestående, skall han få lön, men varder någons verk förbrändt, så skall han gå miste om den." Hvilka allvarliga ord! Vårt byggnadsarbete skall en dag afsynas af den store, rättfärdige och allvetande Byggmästaren. "Dagen skall göra det klart." Ja, dagen, den stora, afgörande, domens



PROF. CARL ALEXIS,
Organist.



W.M. H. OLSON,
Treasurer of Building Fund.



S. OSCAR MATSON,
Sexton.

dag. Nu är det så mycket, som kan dölja vårt arbete. Men på den dagen äro alla ställningarna nedrifna, och vårt verk står där sådant som det i verkligheten är. Den, som med trohet och nit och tålamod sökt göra sitt bästa, kan med frimodighet och hopp se framåt mot den dagen; ty där skall icke hans arbete underkännas, som kanske ofta skedde här. Men den som i själfsväld och egennytta har byggt enligt sina egna planer och sin egen vilja, han måste se framåt mot den dagen med bäfvan och förskräckelse, ty där skall han icke kunna dölja sitt arbete bakom vare sig det ena eller det andra, som han ofta lyckades göra här.

Vi kunna väl icke tänka oss något större och härligare här på jorden än det, att vi arma, syndfulla varelser få vara Guds medhjälpare, få vara med uti arbetet på Guds eviga tempelbyggnad. Hjälpe oss Herren, att vi alla må sköta vår kallelse och vår uppgift så, att när vår arbetsdag är slut, vi må få det betyget: "Väl, du gode och trogne tjänare; i ringa ting har du varit trogen; jag skall sätta dig öfver mycket; gå in i din Herres glädje."

"Och honom, som förmår göra utöfver allt, vida mer än vi begära eller tänka, efter den kraft som verkar i oss, honom vare ära i församlingen genom Jesus Kristus ibland alla släkten i evigheters evighet. Amen."

St. James, Minnesota, i juli 1918.

Vördsamt,

TITUS A. CONRAD.



MRS. INGRED LILJEHOLM.

The oldest member. Born July 4, 1827.





G. T. MELBURG,
Manager of "Vår Församling."



OSCAR STRAND,
Assistant Manager of "Vår Församling."



SUNDAY-SCHOOL

WITHOUT a doubt the father of the Sunday-school in its modern form is Robert Raikes. He gathered together the destitute children of Gloucester into classes on the Lord's Day for the purpose of teaching them. His object was to keep them off the streets and teach them how to read and write, so that they might make good citizens. He simply intended to do the children good. In the year 1780 he engaged the assistance of a Mrs. King and secured her for his first teacher at a salary of one shilling and six pence (36 cents) per Sunday.

But history proves that Sunday-school work commenced long before Mr. Raikes' time. Sunday-school work has continued through parents and religious teachers for thousands of years. Abraham gave religious instruction to his household, and whether this instruction was given on the Sabbath Day or not, we do not know, but it is evident that the content was the same as the instruction in the modern Sunday-school. When Christ was on earth it was the custom of the Jews to worship in their synagogues on the Sabbath and to instruct in the afternoon in the "law and prophets." Both old and young attended, while the Rabbi was their instructor. It served to keep alive their consciousness of Jehovah and His law. We know that Christ was interested in Sunday-school work from such instances as His blessing little children and putting a child in the midst of His disciples.

Later, when Christianity entered Europe, one of the main factors in establishing it was the religious training. Of course, during the Middle Ages all church life was demoralized, and the instruction of the youth suffered with the other Christian activities. Then came the wonderful Reformation period, and the very first thing Luther did was to recognize the deplorable ignorance of the common people in spiritual things, and to overcome this he prepared his two catechisms to aid in their instruction. His small catechism is considered one of the best books ever writ-



SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

ten for the religious instruction of children. After centuries, it is more popular to-day than at any time in its history. Before Luther's time church membership was a mere formality, but with the rise of catechetical instruction the people learned to know the doctrines and were able to give reason for the faith they professed. The system thus introduced has spread over the world, and the modern Sunday-school owes its breadth and development to this work of Luther.

Luther had very definite and practical views about catechization and laid down the following principles: Catechetical instruction must be attended to in the family, school and church. The same text and form of words should be retained. There ought to be a proper and regular graduation in the course of instruction; first the text of the principal parts; then the explanation; then the progress from the Small to the Large catechism. The aim of such instruction must be not simply a knowledge of doctrine, but a personal conviction of faith. The catechism was to be a life book, a prayer book.

The first Lutheran Sunday-school in America was organized in St. John's Church, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1821. To-day every Lutheran church has a Sunday-school, for the Sunday-school has come to stay, and it is time that we consider it seriously. We must study the question thoroughly and intelligently and then go to our problems and make the school what it should be, a religious school in every sense of the word.

Perhaps you have heard people say that the Sunday-school is a children's church. Those who have this idea are mistaken in their views. The Sunday-school is a service, but not a church. The Sunday-school teaches the Gospel, but it does not have the Sacraments, and hence it is not a church. It is only a part of the church. The erroneous idea of the Sunday-school being a children's church has done much to bring about the present deplorable condition of the work. Children have been led to believe that when they have attended the Sunday-school, they have fulfilled their whole religious duty, and consequently they have not been trained to attend the church service.

Neither does the Lutheran look upon his Sunday-school as preeminently an evangelizing agency. His conception of the preaching of the Word of God and his doctrines of the ministry forbid such a view. God has appointed and ordained the office of the ministry for this special purpose, and this is His evangelizing agency. The Lutheran Sunday-school is a teaching service—a place where the whole congregation meets for instruction.



ARVID V. PETERSON,
Sunday-school Superintendent and Assistant Editor of "Vår Församling."



LESLIE C. JOHNSON,
Secretary of Sunday-school.

The aims of the Lutheran Sunday-school are, first of all, the teaching of God's Word. Also to bring the child to a conscious knowledge of his relation to his Saviour and the development of a Christian character. The baptized child is a Christian, but he has not yet developed a Christian character. He is liable to be led into sin, and hence the Sunday-school strives to build up his Christian character and fortify him against sin. But to send a child to Sunday-school does not relieve the parents of the obligation of teaching the child at home. The earliest method of religious instruction was that of the home, and nothing has been discovered that will surpass it. This being so, the Sunday-school cannot be depended upon entirely for the building of Christian character. Instead of freeing the parent from his obligation, the Sunday-school seeks to aid him so that he may accomplish greater results.

Concerning the work and progress of the Lutheran Sunday-school in Monmouth, Illinois, during the past fifty years, statistics show that the Sunday-school has grown steadily in accordance with the increasing church membership. The congregation is situated in a church going community, where there are churches of almost every denomination in the city, and for this reason there has been but a small percent of those attending our Sunday-school whose parents are not members of the church.

A graded course of Sunday-school instruction is now used in our church which cannot be excelled. Luther's catechism is, of course, the foundation upon which the training is based, and is used in all classes of the Intermediate Department. There are six grades in the Intermediate Department, three in the Primary Department, besides the Cradle Roll. The Bible classes consist of the Confirmation, Young Women, Young Men and Older Folks classes.

Our Sunday-school was organized as early as in the year 1870 with a membership of about 10. At the time of our 40th anniversary celebration we had an enrollment of 117. And now when we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the organization of our congregation, the enrollment has reached the 250 mark. For the bountiful blessings of God in caring for His lambs within the Sunday-school we give Him thanks.

A. V. PETERSON.





SUNDAY-SCHOOL.



SWEDISH BIBLE CLASS.



BETHPAGE BIBLE CLASS.



LUTHER BIBLE CLASS.



CRADLE ROLL

Top Row—Frank Olson, Edith Wise, Evelyn Linman, Francis Nordstrom, Helen Anderson, Gertrude Anderson.

Second Row—Orville Bertelsen, Helen Nelson, Marie Nelson, Earl Peterson, Edith Carlson, Helen Martin.

Third Row—Herbert Themanson, Marjory Burk, Mrs. Oscar Purn, Glen Anderson, Mrs. Chas. Dahlgren, Evelyn Anderson, James Swanson.

Fourth Row—Louise Holmberg, Leonard Melburg, Lucile Johnson, Linnea Johnson, Mary Lovedahl.

Fifth Row—Bertha Williamson, Lucile Stark, Elizabeth Benson, Bernice Harchelrod, Raphael Matson, Donald Strand.

Sixth Row—Armand Olson, Benjamin Mills, Melvin Bragd, Verner Bergren, Bernice Martin, Luther Linman.

Seventh Row—Lucile Peterson, Herbert Peterson, Evelyn Martin, Ralph Martin, Laurence Isaacson.

Members of Cradle Roll not appearing in picture:

Andrew Bertelson

George Bertelson

Arthur Dodson

Agnes Flod

Evert Flod

Charlie Hanson

Ralph Hanson

Evelyn Hoy

Marie Hanson

Kenneth Hallberg

Earl Isaacson

Anita Krog.

Matilda Jane Lovedahl

Gladys Murk

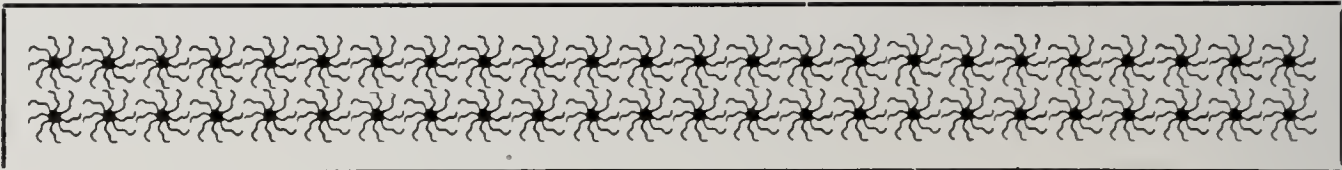
Edith Ryner

Christine Scott

Louise Tinder

Marie Westfield





PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

OUR LORD commands His Church not only to feed His sheep, but also to feed His lambs. There can be no proper and efficient child training unless it is in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Not only do the mental and moral faculties of the child need development, but also the religious and spiritual. As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. In order best to accomplish this end it is necessary to have the child under the care of the Church at all times. In the nature of the case and because of the complex religious status of the teaching force of the Public School it is impossible to furnish the religious and moral training such as the Church deems necessary through the present system of education in this country. Our Lutheran Church has fully realized this, and when the otherwise splendid religious instruction given in the Sunday-school has not been sufficient, she has not failed to introduce the Parochial School. The main object of this school must always be considered as being religious instruction. But because of the fact that our Lutheran churches in this country have in the past used the mother-tongue in the worship of God and all church life, it has become a secondary necessity to instruct the children in the language used by their parents as soul-language in divine worship. This has also been the experience in our church until this summer. Swedish has been the medium of instruction in Parochial School almost entirely until the last few years. We are proud, and justly so, in being able to teach our children the beautiful tongue of the Northland, but we are still more thankful to God that when this is, as it seems, a thing of the past, we yet have the privilege of indoctrinating our youth in the faith of the fathers in a language which to them will always be their heart-language, and thus perpetuate true Lutheranism in this land of our adoption or nativity. This we believe to be the mission of the Parochial School in the future, and we hope to be able to maintain such a school in years to come, even though the medium of instruction be English.

The Swedish has served a noble purpose, and many there are who are thankful for their past privileges. Others will in the future thank God for opportunities afforded them under different conditions. The Parochial School together with the Sunday-school have been the nursery of the Church. The boys and girls of to-day are the men and women of to-morrow. Hence the equipment will help them to fill their places both in the Church and State. Those who labored faithfully to maintain these schools shall also in due season get their reward by grateful acknowledgment of the benefits received by the living and by happy reception in "eternal habitations" by the departed, who in the time of grace were the recipients of this religious training.

We submit from our records the names of those who have been engaged as teachers in our Parochial School from the year 1872 until the present time. They are as follows:

1872-73	Catechist N. Nordling.
1874	Pastor A. W. Holmgren.
1877	Pastor Elias Petterson.
1879-81	Student L. Swenson.
1882	Student Gustaf Petterson.
1883	Student C. E. Elving.
1884	Student G. A. Brandelle.
1885-87	Pastor J. E. Florén.
1888	Student James Moody.
1889	Pastor August Johnson.
1890	Student P. S. Miller.
1891	Student G. Forsberg.
1894	Student C. A. Larson.
1895	Pastor August Johnson.
1898	Student G. A. Fahlund.
1901	Anna Elison.
1903	Student G. S. Swensson.
1904	Student Paul Johnson.
1905-06	Anna Johnson.
1907	Mary Hagman.
1908	Pastor T. A. Conrad.
1909	Student C. O. Bengtson.
1910	Pastor T. A. Conrad.
1911	Pastor Conrad and Student A. W. Johnson.
1913	Pastor T. A. Conrad.
1914	Prof. J. E. Swanson.
1915	Student F. W. Hanson.
1916	Student Luther Benson.
1917	Gerda Hiller.
1918	Student T. L. Rydbeck.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1899.

First Row—Moritz Linnam, Henry Peterson, Arthur Johnson, August Olson, Joseph Sjögren, Roy Miller, Otto Mark.
Second Row—Lillie Peterson, Edith Swanson, Anna Peterson, Mary Hagman, Amanda Williamson, Annette Mark.
Third Row—John O. Swanson, Lillie Swanson, Hilda Mark, Regina Nelson, Ida Blomgren, Chas. E. Strand.



CONFIRMATION

Heavenly Father,
Praised be Thy mercy!
Thou wilt not reject us,
For Thou hast chosen us Thine heirs forever.
Thou wilt e'er protect us
That from Thy covenant we part, no, never.
Teach us, O Father, seek for Thy kingdom!

Jesus, our Saviour!
Grant us Thy Spirit.
Carnal pleasures tempt us;
Our faith, as gold, is tested in the furnace.
Lord, do Thou exempt us
That naught from Thy communion e'er may turn us.
Help us to strive and live for Thy kingdom!

Comforting Spirit!
Clothe us with power!
Thou alone canst arm us
That in defeat our souls may never perish.
Ill can never harm us,
If Thee till life's last hour we fondly cherish,
Winning, at last, Thy heavenly kingdom!

WHEN our resurrected Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, instituted the sacrament of the Holy Baptism, He not only gave to the Christian Church the all-embracing command to baptize all nations, but to teach them all things whatsoever He had commanded them. From this we learn that those who have been baptized and through baptism have become the disciples and followers of Jesus Christ shall be taught by the Church to "observe," that is to keep before their minds and cherish in their hearts all the promises of God contained in the blessed sacrament administered to them in early infancy. This sacred obligation the Lutheran Church has sought to fulfill in ages past.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1901.
First Row—Oscar Bolino, Florence Martin, Esther Hanson, Ernest Miller.
Second Row—Win. Ahlstrand, Malinda Carlson, Herman Rumburg, Pearl Martin, Arthur Paluberg, Charlotte Johnson.
Third Row—Emily Carlson, Emily Ahlstrand, Edith Stark, Oscar Strand.

She has always had a great confidence in religious knowledge as being the best means keeping the lambs of Christ's fold upon the right pathway. She has sought to give this religious training in the home, in the parochial and Sunday-schools, and her experience has been that this has been a safe method of leading the young to Christ and of establishing them in the Word of God. She fully realizes that as the baptized children grow in years and understanding, they should be brought to a living knowledge of the saving grace bestowed upon them through the water and the Word. They are to be carefully nurtured and trained, so that they may be made partakers of this grace, and value it as a priceless heritage, and live their lives in grateful obedience to the will of God, as is befitting His baptized sons and daughters and the members of His Church in general.

Let me call your attention to the *nature* of this sacred rite. Confirmation is not a sacrament, neither is it supplementary to Baptism, nor is it a renewal of Baptism, but it is a ratification of the solemn covenant obligations to God through infant Baptism. It is an act of confession and a pledge on the part of the person confirmed. It is a confirming, strengthening and establishing of the catechumen in Grace primarily through the means of Grace, the Word and the Sacraments. Hence the rite of confirmation is one of deep significance to our children who have received the sacrament of the Holy Baptism. It is a golden opportunity to make public confession of their Christian faith in the presence of God and His Church.

What, then, do they confess? In the first place they confess that, by virtue of the Baptism, it is their earnest purpose to remain steadfast in this faith unto the end, and, as Christ's followers, walk by faith in a new life, and to love the Lord their God above all things and their neighbor as themselves.

Secondly, they promise and confess that by the help of God, in watchfulness and prayer, they will diligently use the Word of God and faithfully seek their Saviour in His Holy Supper.

Thirdly, they promise and confess that they will shun all false doctrines, and be faithful to the Word of God according to our Evangelical Lutheran Confession.

After this confession by the confirmands, the pastor and the whole congregation unite in fervent intercessory prayers for these young sons and daughters, to whom they now extend a loving invitation henceforth



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1902.

First Row—Henry Holcomb, Helen Haggman, Anna Johnson, Henry Peterson, Clara Miller, Hilma Matson, Elmer Johnson.
Second Row—Anna Sanderholm, Arthur Murk, Carl Lindegren, Mable Ekstrom.
Third Row—Arthur Melburg, Hannah Hamberg, Edith Matson, Alice Palmberg, Nelly Themanson, Rudolph Runberg.

to share with them the sacrament of the true body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord,—the holy of holies in the Christian Church.

Picture to yourself this beautiful act of confirmation. We will let the words of Dr. Gerberding convey to you this scene. "The catechumen has been examined by the pastor as to his fitness for this important step. The pastor has found that he possesses an intelligent understanding of the doctrines taught in the Catechism, and that the experience of his heart bears witness to their truth and power. On this account he is adjudged as fit and well prepared to be admitted to the holy communion. He now comes of his own accord—not because he is old enough, or because father, mother, or pastor wants him to—before the altar of Christ. There, in the presence of the assembled congregation and the all-seeing God, his lips confess the faith of his heart, the faith into which he was baptized as a child. He now voluntarily takes upon himself the vows and promises that the parents or sponsors took for him at baptism. He receives an earnest admonition from his pastor to hold fast that which he has and be faithful unto death. The whole congregation, together with the pastor, lift their hearts in earnest intercessory prayer to God for His continuous blessing and protection on the young confessor; and, the catechumen kneeling at the altar, the pastor directs the intercessions of the church to each kneeling one in turn, by laying his hands on him and offering up for him a fervent petition in inspired words. This is the simple and appropriate ceremony we call confirmation."

This sacred act has been almost a yearly occurrence in our church during the past fifty years. Many have also remained true to their confession, which has been evidenced at the few confirmation reunions held in recent years. What an inspiration it has been to us all to remind ourselves of the solemn obligations we took upon ourselves when we were confirmed! Surely some straying sheep have been regained through this practice, and others have become more established in the faith and rooted and grounded in love. Our records show that during fifty years, including this year's class, we have confirmed in our church 443 persons, and deducting this year's class it would be 401 persons within the limits of fifty years, according to the date of organization. The oldest confirmand, who to-day is a member of our church, is Mr. C. J. Swanson of the class of '75.

Our earnest and heartfelt prayers to God is that those who have been confirmed, and who in the future shall be confirmed, in our church may be faithful unto death, that they may be given the crown of life.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1903.

First Row—Lillian Gagnelius, Nels A. Swanson, Selma Martin, Selma Linnman, Mable Pearson.
Second Row—Arthur L. Martin, Martin Anderson.
Third Row—Jeanette Peterson, Minnie Hamberg, Pearl Levine, Anna Anderson.

PRAYER:

Almighty and everlasting God, Who dost always multiply Thy Church, and with Thy light and grace dost strengthen the hearts of those whom Thou hast regenerated, confirming unto them Thy covenant and faithfulness: Grant that our confirmands may still increase in faith and knowledge, that they may rejoice in their Baptism and remain faithful to the promises which they have given at the time of their confirmation, and thus daily renew their covenant with Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.





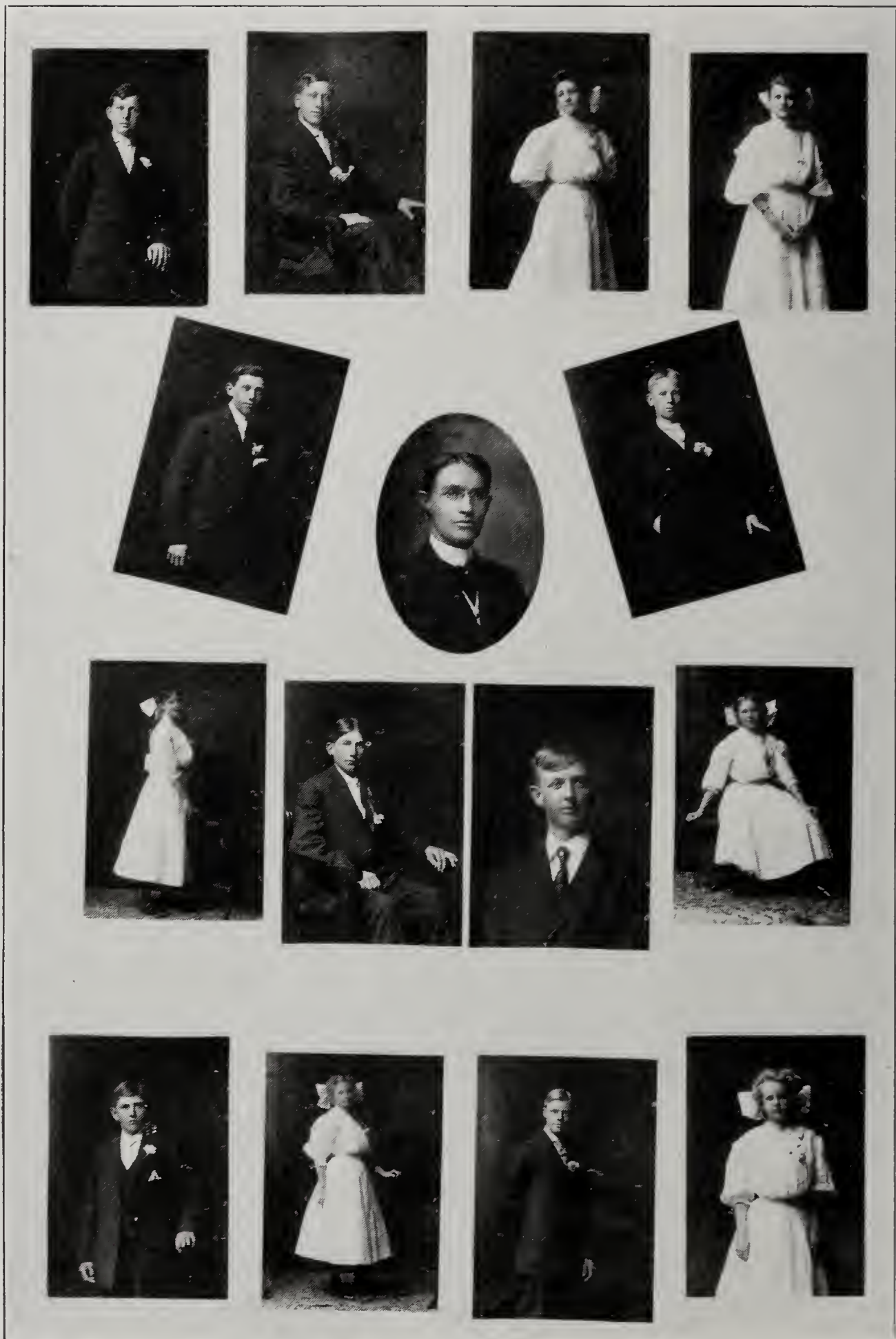
CONFIRMATION CLASS 1905.

First Row—John Blomgren, Emily Olson, Arthur Hamilton, Martin Murk, C. Oscar Nelson, Dell Martin, Eva Nelson.
Second Row—Arvid Peterson, Esther Murk, George Josephson, Olga Matson, Esther Pearson, Mand Wetander, Anna M. Peterson, Ralph Johnson, Philip Wetander, Hilding Andreen.
Bottom Row—John S. Holmberg, Chester Linnan, Herman Johnson, Luther Gagnelius, Ernest Melburg, Helen Swanson, Lonie Peterson, Esther Axell, Win. H. Swanson, Clyde Johnson, Victor Johnson.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1907.

First Row—Chalmer Lovdahl, Louise Levine, Lennie Levine, Clara Peterson, Hilding Matson, Minnie Hanson.
Second Row—Harry Johnson, Mildred Engdahl, Chas. O. Peterson, Mabel Olson, Oliver Lovdahl, Victor Olson, Hilda Hamilton, Lester Peterson.
Third Row—Minnie Palmberg, Ruth Pearson, Andrew Dickens, Edith Murk, Hazel Bolin.
Bottom—Edna Melburg.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1908.

First Row—Edgar Runburg, Harry Themanson, Mabel M. Olson, Lillian Wetander.

Second Row—Allen Bowman, Arthur Swanson.

Third Row—Maud Peterson, Carl Swanson, Edwin Johnson, Margaret Lundburg.

Bottom Row—Albert Johnson, Olga Levine, Victor Bolin, Esther Johnson.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1910.

Boys, left to right—Rudolf Holmberg, Elmer Olson, Guy Pearson, Harold Bolin, Arthur Thernanson, Lambert Engdahl, Guy Swanson, George Johnson, Harold Melburg, Arthur Swanson.
Girls—Vendla Carlson, Bessie Loydahl, Pearl Gagnelius, Lillie Swanson, Esther Johnson, Esther Palmberg, Helen Anderson, Arlena Levine, Agnes Johnson, Esther Palmer.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1911.

First Row—Frank Anderson, Willard Hanson, Harry Johnson, Wm. Root, John Ryland, John Sandstrom, Ralph Johnson.
Second Row—Clarence Mattson, Esther Wetander, Katherine Martin, Julia Palmer, Marie Hilsenhoff, Edna Johnson, Edna Hamilton.
Third Row—Mabel Johnson, Anna Martin, Marion Swanson, Hazel Bergren, Lillian Levine, Lydia Ekstrom.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1912.

Boys, left to right—Leonard Moberg, John Swanson, Fred Dahlgreen, Leslie Johnson, Nels O. Swanson, Elmer Johnson, Arthur H. Hanson, Leland Anderson, Chester Swanson, Hjalmer Holmberg.
Girls—Edith Swanson, Hazel Palmberg, Lillian Erlandson, Mabel Levine, Elfrieda Gibson, Signe Johnson.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1913.

First Row—Roy Anderson, Fred Thumanson, Bert Johnson, Arthur Carlson, Raymond Carlson, Oscar Gustafson, John Engdahl, Herman Bergren, Harry Johnson, Edwin Wilsenhoff.
Second Row—Elizabeth Carlson, Bessie Carlson, Edna Swanson, Estelle Erlandson, Lillian Holcomb, Zella Hamberg, Mildred Levine, Selma Swanson.
Third Row—Hugoborg Jensen, Ruby Peterson, Crescence Ekstrom, Marie Pearson, Lillian Palmer.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1914.
Boys—Ruben Anderson, Walter Sandstrom, Arthur R. Hanson, Roy Johnson, Clarence Johnson.
Girls—Myrtle Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Ruby Swanson, Esther Anderson, Ida Johnson.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1915.

First Row—Herbert Levine, Arlo Johnson, Chester Erlandson, Clarence Anderson, Clyde Carlson, Guy Wetander, Roy A. Johnson, Leslie Larson, Leonard Melburg.
Second Row—Florence Clint, Esther Matson, Mabel Swanson, Carrie Johnson, Bessie Palmberg, Ruth Hempfling, Ethel Peterson, Lillian Swanson, Signe Carlson, Blanche Erlandson, Annie Peterson, Ida Thomsen.
Third Row—Marie Martin, Mac Anderson, Grace Olson, Nellie Clint, Anna Johnson, Mammie Carlson, Matilda Hilsenboff, Nellie Johnson, Hazel Palmer, Sophy Clint, Minnie Wennerberg.



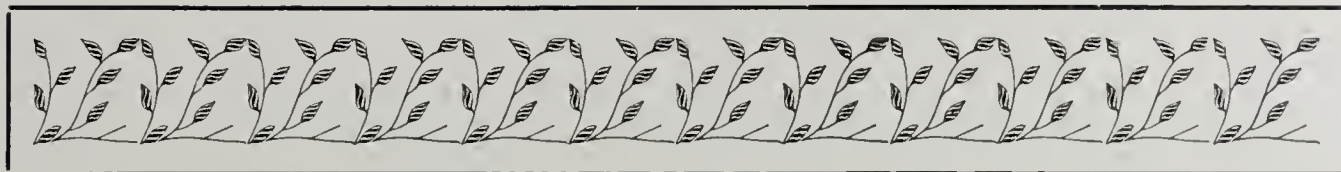
CONFIRMATION CLASS 1917.

First Row—Victor Engdahl, Everett Newman, Evald Anderson, Hjalmar Matson, Everett Johnson, Carl Larson.
Second Row—Esther Isaacson, Lillie Carlson, Ethel Fredrickson, Lillian Fahlund.
Third Row—Ellen Swanson, Hazel Anderson, Marie Carlson, Mabel Wetander, Ethel Clint, Elsie Larson.



CONFIRMATION CLASS 1918.

Top Row—Paul Jensen, Carl Jensen, Herman Friberg, Peter Jensen, Gerald Johnson.
Second Row—Harold Hallberg, Millard Palmberg, Frank Themanon, Paul Löfdahl, Elmer Johnson, Herman Erickson, Hans Hilsenhoff, Thomas Jensen.
Third Row—John Strand, Ellen Johnson, Anna Mattson, Marion Hanson, Walter Carlson, Hazel Martin, Evelyn Hallberg, Agnes Benson, Ray Erlandson, Herbert Johnson.
Bottom Row—May Erlandson, Irene Strand, Emily Clint, Edna Ekestrom, Mildred Melberg, Pastor Oscar Purn, Mabel Isaacson, Esther Anderson, Helen Larson, Edna Swanson, Lillie Johnson.



OUR SOLDIER BOYS

NEVER before in the annals of human events has there been such a world-wide catastrophe as the present world-war. The past must become mute in the presence of to-day's momentous events. The cause of liberty is fiercely contended for, and nation is pitted against nation.

Our own beloved country has also been drawn into the turmoil, and the sound has gone forth from the seat of authority to rally to the defense of our highly priced principles of liberty and equality. Our church has rightfully answered the call by giving thirty-two of her sturdy sons to the defense of our country. These men have been among our faithful workers of the church, and their place is vacant, waiting for their return. But in the meantime we commend them into the gracious care and protection of the Saviour of the world.

Interceding in behalf of our dear boys and our own country, we feel assured that God shall hear our prayers, and in His own good time shall change "the night of weeping into a morn of song."

The following pages will bring you a greeting from "Our Boys," and will help you to keep in fresh memory your own obligations at home toward them, your church and your country.





Captain Charles A. Benson,
enlisted April, 1917.

Arthur C. Anderson,
entered June 24, 1918.

Private Fred W. Bergren,
enlisted May 31.

Private B. LeRoy Johnson,
entered June 24, 1918.

Private Lester G. Peterson,
enlisted June 14, 1918.

Private Raymond C. Carlson,
enlisted Sept. 21, 1917.



Private Gustaf Erickson,
enlisted June 24, 1918.

Private Guy Pearson,
enlisted April 30, 1918.

Private Ernest C. Melburg,
enlisted July, 1917.

Cook Lennie M. Martin,
enlisted Dec. 25, 1917.

Private Ralph J. Johnson,
enlisted March 14, 1918.

Private Wm. C. Root,
enlisted May 31, 1918.



Corp. Harold A. Melburg,
entered May 24, 1918.

Sergt. Arthur R. Hansen,
enlisted December, 1917.

Private Elmer Anderson,
entered Sept. 21, 1917.

Private Victor A. Bolin,
enlisted July, 1917.

Pvt. Clarence A. E. Anderson,
enlisted December, 1917.

Private Lambert Engdahl,
enlisted March 14, 1918.



Private John S. Holmberg,
enlisted April 3, 1918.

Private Harry A. Sward,
enlisted March 8, 1918.

Private Harold W. Bolin,
enlisted December, 1917.

Arthur S. Hamilton,
enlisted July 30, 1918.

Private Clarence Matson,
enlisted March 14, 1918.

Private Chalmer Lovedahl,
enlisted June 14, 1918.



Corporal Wm. H. Swenson,
enlisted Sept. 21, 1917,

Private Emil Anderson, enlisted June 24, 1918.

Private Edwin C. Johnson;
enlisted March 14, 1918.

Private Manne Rask,
enlisted May 25, 1918.

John Anton Johnson,
June 24, 1918.



CHURCH BOARD.



THE OLD CHURCH.



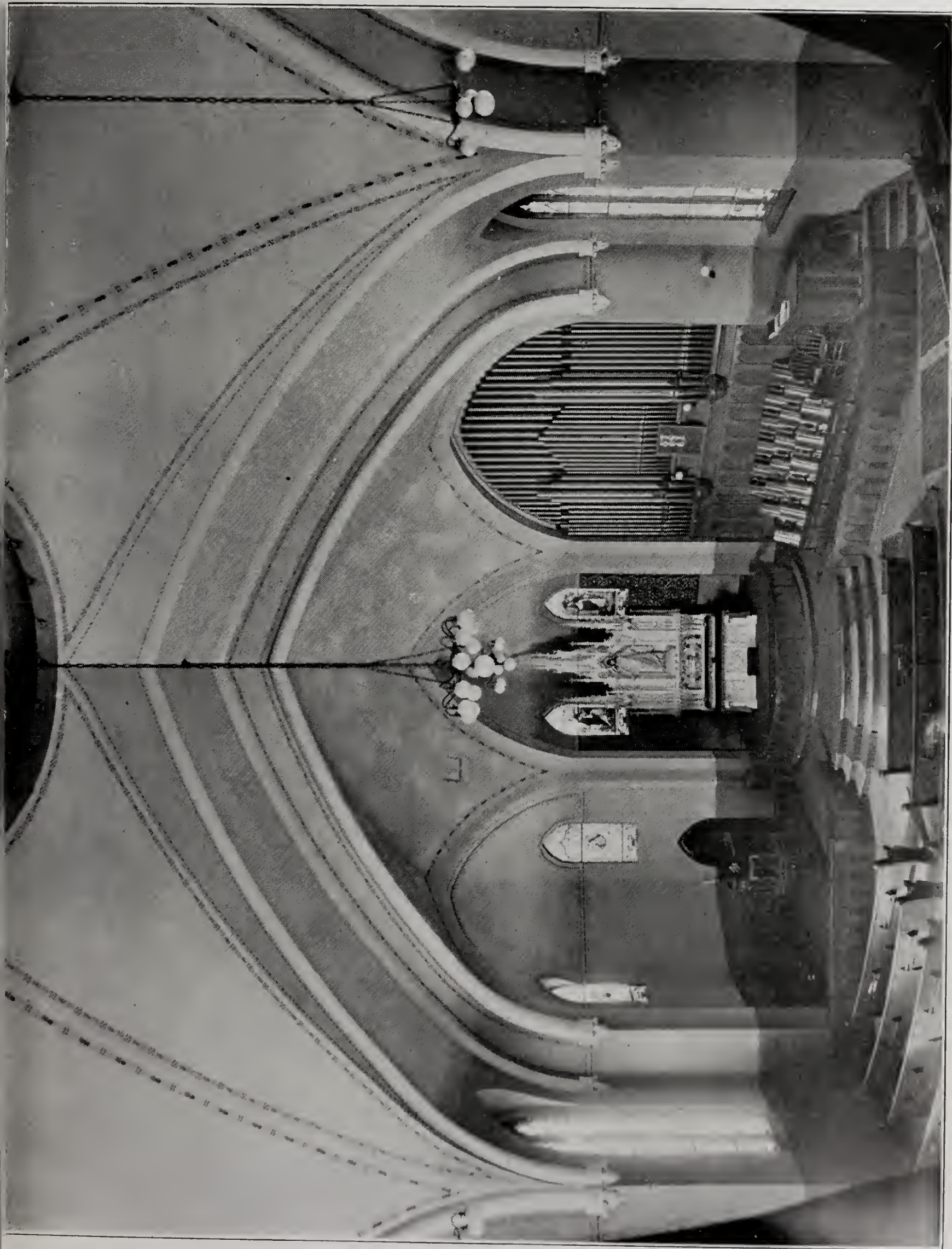
INTERIOR OF THE OLD CHURCH BEFORE PIPE ORGAN WAS INSTALLED.



INTERIOR OF THE OLD CHURCH WITH PIPE ORGAN.



VIEW OF MAIN AUDITORIUM OF NEW CHURCH.



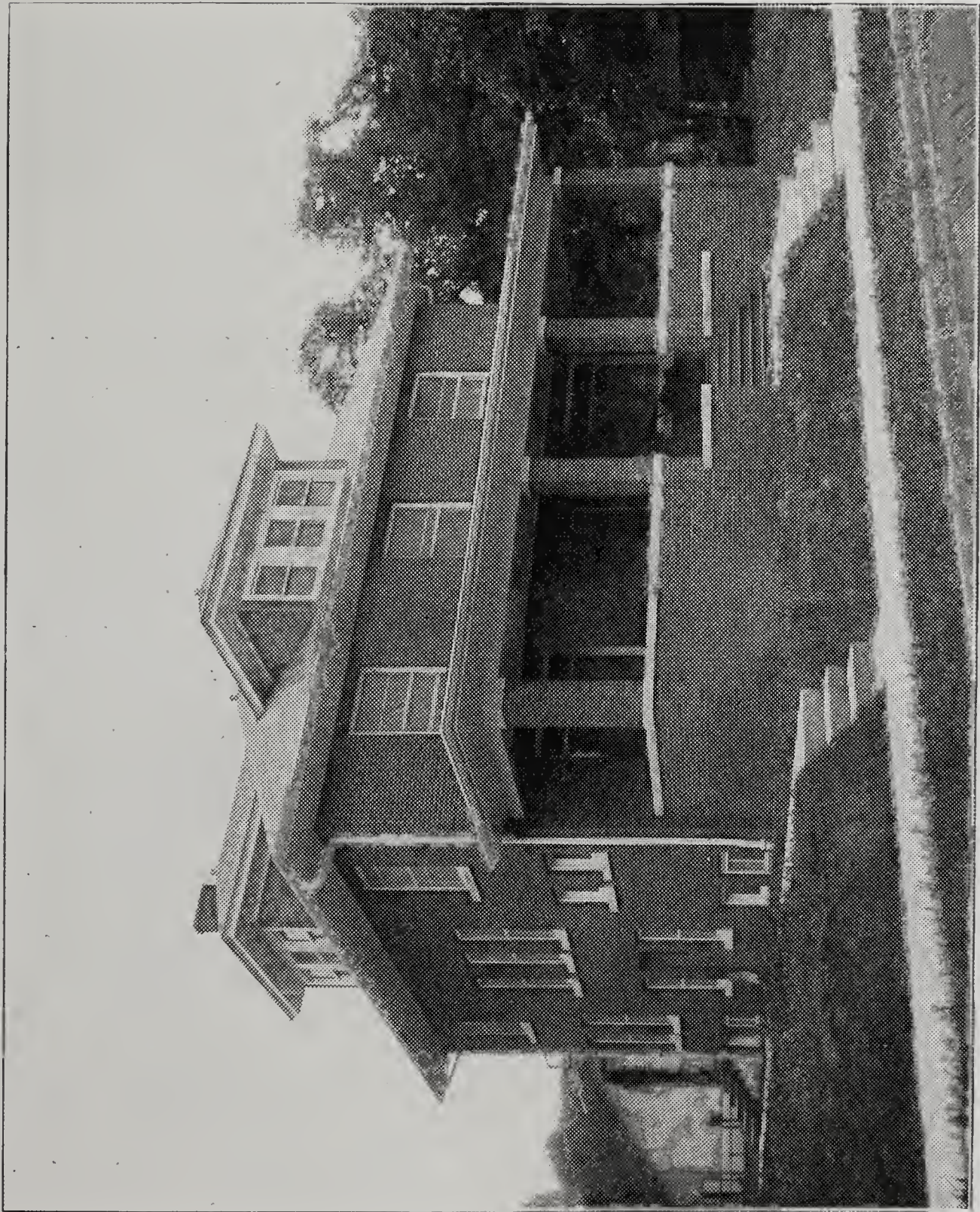
FRONT VIEW OF THE NEW CHURCH.



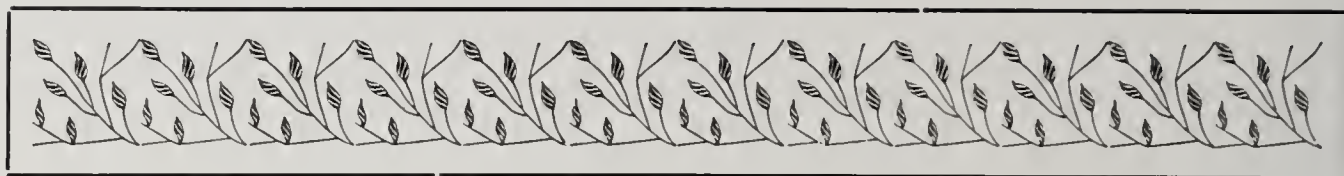
THE OLDEST PARSONAGE.



THE SECOND PARSONAGE.



THE PRESENT PARSONAGE.



SOCIETIES

DORKAS-FÖRENINGEN

DORKAS-FÖRENINGEN, hvilken består af våra äldre kvinnliga medlemmar, stiftades den 2 augusti 1894, under pastor Johnsons tid. På sitt gemytliga sätt ledde och hjälpte pastor Johnson föreningen under dess första utvecklingsstadier, så att den nu är en af våra största och starkaste föreningar. Den har alltid stått färdig att hjälpa församlingen, och på grund af att den är den äldsta föreningen inom församlingen har den fått bära namnet "moderföreningen". Genom Dorkas-föreningens regelbundna verksamhet har det förunnats kvinnorna att samlas hvarje månad till stilla andaktsstunder, då de fått lyssna till Ordet, som utsåts af våra snälla pastorer. Vi få säkerligen mycken nytta och vederkvickelse från dessa andaktsstunder, då Ordet synes komma en närmare än vid några andra tillfällen. Det är också en stor glädje att på detta sätt möta våra vänner och komma i närmare beröring med församlingsmedlemmarna. Det är med en viss tillfredsställelse som medlemmarna se tillbaka på det arbete, som de fått tillfälle att vara med om i denna förening.

Redan under dess andra verksamhetsår åtog sig föreningen att renovera det dåvarande prästhuset samt insatte en kort tid därefter gaslyse i kyrkan. År 1899 insatte föreningen med tillhjälp af Luther-förbundet värmeapparaten i kyrkan till en kostnad af \$244.

År 1904, då nytt altare, ny altarrund och nya bänkar insattes i kyrkan, deltog Dorkas-föreningen i detta ädla företag. Hvarje år tillväxte föreningen både i inre och yttre hänseende, och stora summor samlades för den lokala verksamheten såväl som för missionen och andra välgörande ändamål.

År 1907 tillträdde pastor T. A. Conrad herdesysslan inom vår församling, och vi minnas väl, hurusom han var närvarande vid våra möten

och att det var en inspiration att lyssna till den undervisning i ord och sång, som han meddelade oss. För många år arbetade pastor Conrad för föreningens bästa. Året 1907 var ett ganska betydelsefullt år, emedan Dorkas då tapetserade och målade kyrkan till en kostnad af \$337. Då piporgeln insattes, gaf föreningen \$100 till denna fond, och samma år tapetserade den Luther Hall och följande år prästhuset, hvilket belöpte sig till \$80.

När församlingen beslöt att bygga kyrka, var Dorkas villig att hjälpa till, och har sedan dess bidragit med stora summor hvarje år. År 1910 gafs \$500 och två år senare \$500, så att \$1,000 hade inbetalts, innan församlingen flyttade in i sin nya kyrka.

Det har varit brukligt att hvarje år servera supé vid något lägligt tillfälle, hvilket inbringat ganska betydliga summor. Men år 1912 beslöts det att hvarje medlem skulle i stället för den sedvanliga supéen inlämna \$1, och på så sätt blef det mycket lättare att göra en extra insamling hvarje år. Det första försöket inbragte \$116 och följande år \$125. År 1915 upptog föreningen en räntebärande revers vå \$500, och innan årets slut hade man lyckats att betala hela reversen, och nästkommande år var man färdig att åtaga sig att betala \$500 till.

Föreningen har visat sig vara flitig och trogen under insamlandet af alla dessa utfästade summor och har också lyckats i alla sina företag. Vid tvenne olika tillfällen serverades middag för besökande i staden, inbringande omkring \$100 hvarje gång. Den har således iståndsatts att på ett liberalt sätt bidraga både till hem- och hednamission.

År 1916 organiserades bland Dorkas-kvinnorna en Kvinnornas hem- och hednamissionsförening med ett medlemsantal af 65, och under det gångna året ökades medlemsantalet till 106. Denna förening med de öfriga i distriktet organiserades till en så kallad Galesburg-distriktets Kvinnornas hem- och hednamissionsförening. Medlemmarna af denna organisation borde kunna inse hvilken välsignelse det är att med Guds nåd få vara med om att hjälpa våra missionärer att gå ut i hela världen för att resa korsets banér. Under detta år hafva program utförts, hvilka särskildt berört hem- och hednamissionen.

Vid årsmötet 1916 fattades ett beslut att de, som mottaga föreningen, skola väljas i alfabetisk ordning och att fyra kvinnor skola servera hvarje gång. Detta system har befunnits vara mycket bättre, emedan tillfälle därigenom gifvits alla medlemmarna att mottaga föreningen.

Dorkas-föreningen har nu för öfver ett år ledts framåt och uppåt af vår älskade lärare pastor Purn, som med ifver samverkat med föreningen



DORCAS SOCIETY.

i dess sträfvan att hjälpa till vid kyrkoskuldens utplånande. Då församlingen den 31 oktober 1917 med alla krafter påbörjade subskriptionsarbetet, lofvade Dorkas strax \$150, och i december samma år utfäste sig föreningen att betala \$500 till. Af dessa \$650 har redan \$424 insamlats, så att endast en summa af \$226 återstår, när detta skrifves.

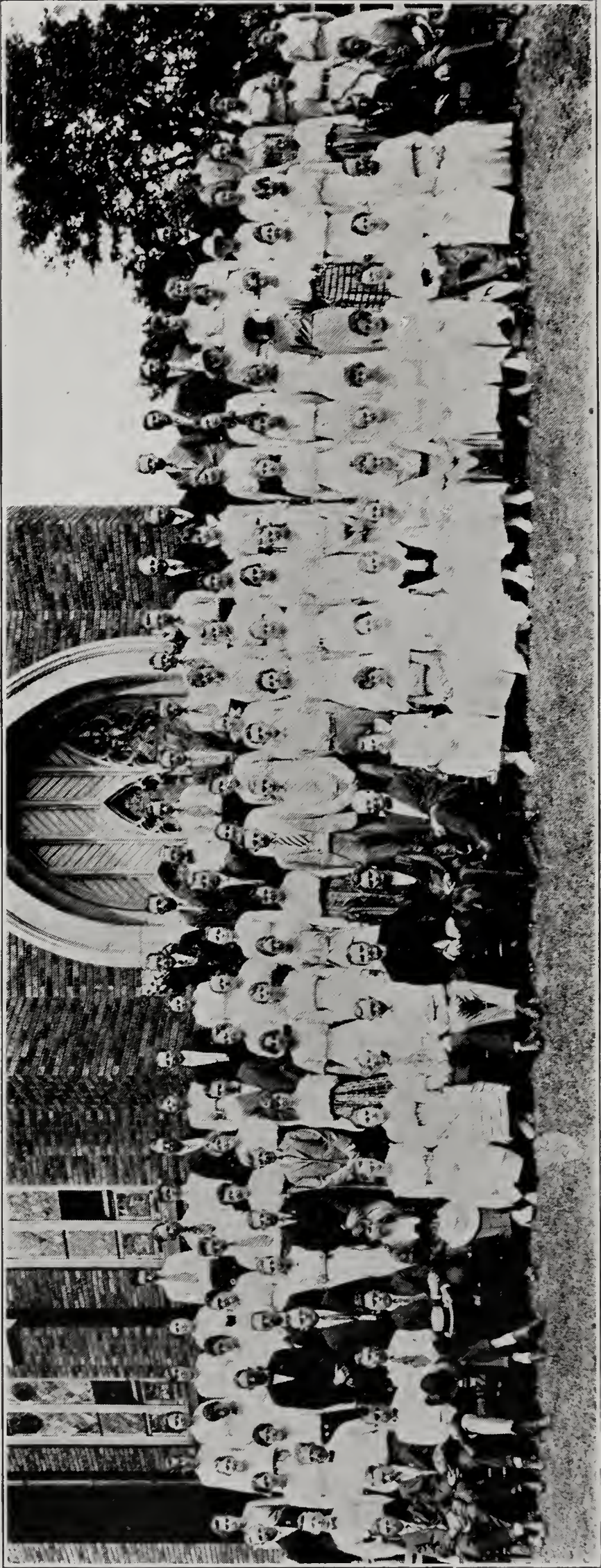
Såsom "moderförening" inom församlingen har den äfven gått före med ett godt exempel, när det gäller landets och våra egna söners välfärd. En s. k. "Liberty Bond" på \$50 har köpts, och hafva äfven kvinnorna medelst några smärre gåfvor velat uppmuntra våra soldatgossar vid de olika öfnings- och fältlägren och på detta sätt visat "moderskärleken". Vår önskan och bön till Gud är, att han må bevara dem både till kropp och själ och att de må snart komma hem igen efter slutad kamp och strid. Må våra döttrar upptaga det goda arbetet, som har påbörjats, och må Gud välsigna vår pastor och oss, att vi må tillväxa i tro och kärlek. Detta skola vi förvissas om, så framt vi sätta tro till Herrens ord i Ordspråksbokens tredje kapitel, verserna 5 och 6: "Förtrösta på Herren af allt ditt hjärta och förlita dig icke på ditt förstånd. På alla dina vägar må du akta på honom, så skall han göra alla dina stigar jämna."

FRU CHARLES DAHLGREN.

LUTHER LEAGUE

THE LUTHER LEAGUE was organized December 15, 1895, or, rather, the "ungdomsförening" was reorganized into the Luther League, the "ungdomsförening" having been organized October 15, 1886. At the organization of the Luther League the following officers were chosen: A. A. Johnson, president; J. E. Stark, vice president; Hattie Peterson, secretary.

The object of the League was, and is to-day, "to uplift and stimulate each other intellectually, spiritually and socially." To begin with, the League held two meetings each month, the first and third Tuesday, the one meeting being of a literary art and the other a social. This practice was continued until 1907, when it was found more practical to consolidate the literary and social meetings. In the latter part of 1905 the League began to assemble every Sunday evening for prayer service. These Sunday evening prayer meetings have since that time been con-



LUTHER LEAGUE.

ducted regularly, with the exception of a few short intervals, when it was found necessary to temporarily discontinue them. The blessings which have resulted from these prayer meetings we cannot estimate, but we believe they have been bounteous, and are still bearing fruit. The spiritual blessings are those we most seek for; and blessed are the young people who in good faith feel it their duty as well as privilege to assemble in God's house for prayer. They are worthy of the name "Luther Leaguers," they are stimulating each other spiritually, they are a support or a prop to their church. "If we expect to be a pillar in God's temple by and by, we must be some kind of a prop in God's Church to-day."

At the time the Luther League was organized it was only a local organization, the feeling being that it was necessary and important to have the young people organized within the church. It gives them excellent training and serves as a medium through which they are kept interested in the church work in general and become useful and faithful members.

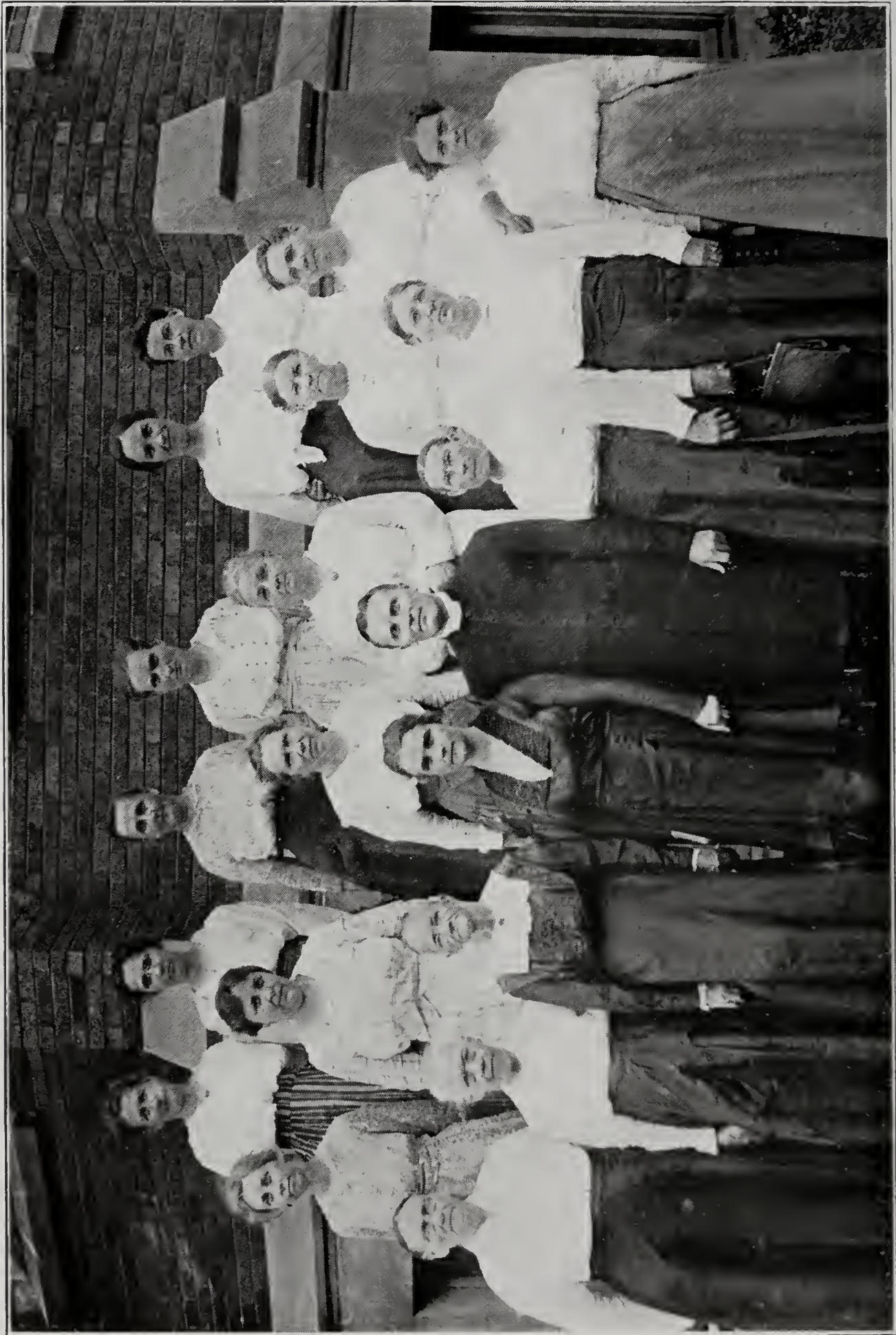
The Lutheran Church firmly believes in having its forces well organized, and the wisdom of this contention is forcibly demonstrated by the development of the Luther League movement, as we now not only have a local Luther League, but are organized into District, Conference, and Synodical Luther Leagues, and to-day is the largest and strongest organization within the Lutheran Church.

The League has also substantially supported our congregation in a financial way. In 1896 it purchased a reed organ for our church. This organ is still being used in the prayer room of our present church. In 1898, \$50 were paid on the congregation's debt. In 1899, together with the Dorcas Society, the Luther League installed the furnace in the old church. In 1906, \$50 were paid on the congregation's debt. In 1907 it defrayed the cost of painting the old church. In 1908 it purchased our present pipe organ at a cost of \$2,850. In 1909 it purchased the piano which is now being used in the Luther Room. A sum of \$2,600 has been subscribed, and practically all paid, to the building fund of our new church. In 1917, \$100 was donated to the local Y. M. C. A.

In 1905 the tenth anniversary of the organization of the League was fittingly celebrated.

The work that the Luther League has done among our young people has been great; it has been a grand success. At present we have a membership of 234, and our meetings are particularly well attended.

The Leagues present officers are: President, Ernest Moberg; vice



MISSION SOCIETY.

president, Algot Bowman; secretaries, Mrs. A. V. Peterson and Olga Levine; treasurer, Anna Sanderholm.

For what our League has been able to accomplish, we thank God. May God richly bless the future of our Luther League and our humble efforts to serve Him.

A. A. OLSON.

MISSIONSFÖRENINGEN

I EN ÄLDRE och mera stadgad församling borde finnas icke så litet missionsintresse både för hem- och hednamissionen. Detta har försports till icke ringa grad inom vår församling under dess existens. Men någon särskild förening, som haft såsom sin uppgift att särskildt verka för missionen, fanns icke förrän man den 16 maj 1907 på inbjudan af fru J. S. Olson i hennes hem stiftade en Kvinnornas missionsförening, som skulle i all synnerhet verka för yttre missionen. Något öfver ett tjugotal kvinnor voro närvarande vid det första mötet. Afsikten var nog icke blott få deltaga med sina medel i missionsverksamheten, utan man ville också bereda ett tillfälle för de kvinnor, som bo söder och väster om staden, att kunna komma tillsammans för ett sociellt samkväm litet oftare än hvad Dorkas-föreningen erbjöd. Denna förening öppnade således tillfälle till ett lifaktigt ingripande både i den lokala församlingens vidtomfattande arbete såväl som i den yttre missionen samt andra välgörenhetsändamål inom synoden.

Föreningen har också visat sig vara villig genom de inkomster, som erhållas genom den vanliga afgiften af 25 cents per medlem vid dess möten samt genom sociala tillställningar, att räcka en hjälpende hand dit, där behofven varit mest skriande. Så hade den vid en större missionsfest, som hölls den 24 juni 1908, då dr Betty Nilsson höll missionsföredrag, skänkt \$50 att begagnas för hennes blifvande missionsarbete. Följande år bidrogs med \$100 till Kinamissionen, och vid årsmötet 1910 utfäste sig föreningen att underhålla en infödd missionär i Indien med \$50 årligen. Föreningen har också varit församlingen behjälplig, i det att den år 1912 betalte församlingens andel af \$200 till Illinois-konferensens missionsskuld. Äfvenså har den understödt Bethphage-missionen under det flydda året med en summa af \$66.30 och till vår egen kyrkoskulds afbetalande bidragit med \$25.



WOMEN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Vi hafva all anledning att tro att denna förening varit till välsignelse för vår församling, såsom de andra föreningarna, och vår bön är, att den fortfarande må få vara en Herrens tjänarinna, som i all ödmjukhet vill gå Mästarens ärenden i den på verklig barmhärtighet så fattiga världen.

FRU W. H. OLSON.

THE ELEANOR AID SOCIETY

ONE OF the liveliest societies of the church is The Eleanor Aid Society, which derived its name from the little village where it was organized on the 9th of April, 1908.

There were a number of families in the church who lived so far from town that it was hard for them to get in to all the meetings of the Dorcas Society and other societies, so the ladies planned a society which should meet at the different homes of the members and enjoy a social afternoon, as well as a beneficial one, in so far as the church was concerned. They met at the home of Swan Johnson at Eleanor, and there the society had its beginning. There were a number of American ladies who were desirous of joining with them, and in fact had a hand in the planning, and they were very welcome, but since the meetings were, as a rule, held in the Swedish language, and they were unable to understand any of it, they gradually dropped out, and it became entirely Swedish. At that time it included only the ladies of that particular neighborhood, but since then has grown until it now takes in all the ladies of the north country and even extends into the city itself, for the old members who have moved to town are so loyal that they cannot be enticed away from that society to the societies which belong in the city.

They decided to call the society "The Eleanor Aid Society," and the first officers were as follows: President, Rev. T. A. Conrad; vice president, Mrs. Swan Johnson; secretary, Mrs. Swan Levine; treasurer, Mrs. Nels Levine. The aim of the society was to help in every necessary way the church work, whether it be for missions, for the running expense of the church or for the purchasing of any necessary article for the church.

From a financial standpoint the society has been a great success in every way. The first undertaking was the raising of funds for the purchase of an altar, which was installed when the church was equipped



ELEANOR AID SOCIETY.

with the organ and thereby necessitated another altar. Aside from that they have raised a large amount of money for the building fund of the new church. In all since the organization of the society they have raised in the neighborhood of eight hundred and fifty dollars and at the present time have almost paid their pledge up in full, which is remarkably well done for a small society like this one. The money has been raised by the usual collections at the meetings and by giving lawn socials at different homes, and these socials have proven very popular with the young folks.

The society has been beneficial, as it was planned, and much credit should be given to the members who have labored cheerfully, very cheerfully, at whatever work they were assigned, and we hope their faithfulness has been an inspiration to the other workers of the church and to the pastor who is their leader. May the members also not forget to be thankful for the opportunity given them to help in the good work and for the blessings given them which enabled them to take part in the upbuilding of God's kingdom.

MRS. BLANCH LEVINE.

THE MARTHA SEWING SOCIETY

THE young ladies of our church felt the need of some organization among themselves, and so a meeting was called at the home of Mrs. Hamilton in the evening of November 21, 1907. At that meeting this society was organized and called the "Martha Sewing Society." The first officers elected were: President, Rev. T. A. Conrad; vice president, Edith (Matson) Bengtson; secretary, Mary (Hagman) Johnson; treasurer, Pearl (Martin) Strand. The first year the membership was about fifty.

The society adopted the biblical name Martha, as they meant and wished to be busy working for the Lord. Martha was a friend and disciple of Christ, whose heartfelt pleasure it was to serve Him to her best ability, and each "Martha" member desired to be a follower of the biblical Martha. The society also adopted the name "Sewing Society," as the method of sewing had been laid aside by most societies, but the Marthas decided each member should take up some sewing. Later plans were made for a sale, and each member should make and donate some articles.



MARTHA SOCIETY.

The devotional exercises at each meeting consist of singing by the society and Scripture reading and prayer by the president, or pastor. After the business meeting, refreshments are served by the hostess. The meetings are arranged in alphabetical order, and two members serve each time, either in the homes or at the Luther Room.

The first bazaar, held December 9—11, 1908, at Luther Hall, was a decided success. A program was given each evening. A doll booth, fancy article booth, candy booth, fish pond and express office netted \$303, which was turned over to the pipe organ fund. In 1909 an ice cream social was held in July and a bazaar December 14—16, the proceeds of which were \$208. In 1910, in May, it was decided to embroider a quilt; thirty blocks were distributed, each block having room for fifteen names, and about \$110 were taken in. A box social was held in October and a bazaar December 15—16, which brought in about \$317. In 1911 a necktie social was held in March and an ice cream social in June. Instead of a bazaar, a good many of the Marthas filled the small books called "Gleaners," each having room for fifty dimes, bringing in about \$165.

During the next four years a bazaar was held in November or December of each year; also a concert and a box social. In 1917 the society celebrated its tenth anniversary in the Luther Room. A program was given and refreshments served at tables decorated to represent the twelve months. About \$165 were the proceeds.

During the past soon eleven years the society has taken in about \$2,750, most of which has been turned over to the building fund. The society has also sent flowers to the sick, occasionally a surprise or shower and other pleasant social gatherings. The society has 76 members at present. The officers are: President, Olga Matson; vice president, Louise Levine; secretary, Ethel Peterson; treasurer, Mabel Olson.

The meetings reveal throughout a Christian atmosphere and are greatly enjoyed by all the members. We feel that the society has been a power for good within our church, both financially and spiritually, and a means by which our young ladies have learned to know, to love, and to labor for the dear church of which they are members, and in so doing will be brought into closer touch and communion with the invisible Church in heaven.

LAURA JACOBSON.



LUTHERAN WORKERS.

LUTHERAN WORKERS

PÅ fredagseftermiddagen den 15 oktober 1909 hade våra kvinnor i staden blifvit inbjudna till pastor Conrads hem. Afsikten med detta möte var att stifta en förening bland dessa kvinnor för att gifva dem tillfälle att möta i våra hem en gång i månaden och på samma gång verka för något välgörande ändamål. Att de verkligen önskade att en sådan förening skulle stiftas, visade sig däruti, att så många kommo med redan från början.

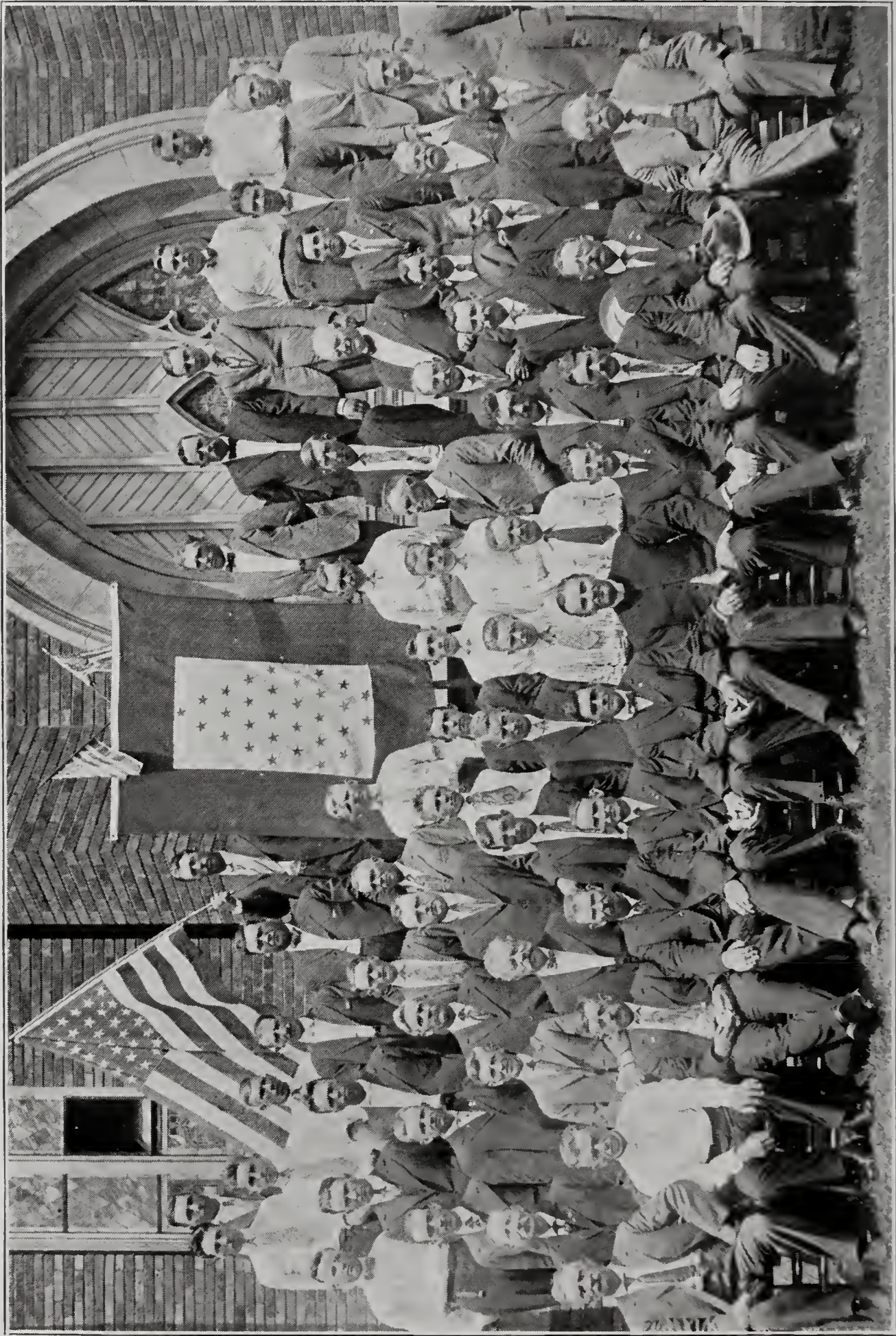
Föreningen antog namnet "The Lutheran Workers." Följande ämbetsinnehafvare valdes: ordförande, pastor Conrad; vice ordförande, fru Gust Melburg; sekreterare, fru John Runberg; kassör, fru John Bolin.

Beslut fattades redan vid detta möte att man skulle arbeta för vår nya kyrka, som vi i framtiden skulle bygga, och detta beslut har föreningen på ett stilla sätt fullföljt. Den har icke gjort mycket väsen af sig, men dock utöfvat en välsignelserik verksamhet. Den har skänkt omkring \$300 till kyrkofonden och anskaffade bordsilfver och diskar, när vi flyttade in i vår nya kyrka. För två år sedan tapetserade föreningen pastorshuset, och när detta var betaldt, så blef det tal om att vi behöfde en ny kokstove för vårt kök, och då beslutade den att köpa en sådan. En kommitté tillsattes att se till hvad som kunde göras, och resultatet blef att en "combination gas and coal stove" med varm-vatten ledning insattes, hvilket var just hvad vi behöfde. Allt är nu betaldt, hvilket visar att föreningen lefver ett friskt och sundt lif och att den är villig att verka för Herrens sak på jorden. Det är väl sant, att detta icke alltid är ett säkert kännetecken på ett verkligt tros-lif, men det är också sant, att där man ingenting vill göra för det yttre, där är det nog icke väl beställdt med lifvet i Gud.

Föreningens närvarande ämbetsmän äro: ordförande, fru Frank Stark; vice ordförande, fru Peter Eckström; sekreterare, fru Oscar Purn; kassör, fru Christine Levine.

Herren välsigne allt fortfarande denna förenings verksamhet såsom han gjort i det flydda!

FRU S. N. JOHNSON.



LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD.

MEN'S LEAGUE, OR LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

ON THE evening of October 19, 1909, the congregation having felt the need of a Men's Society in the church, an organization was perfected which was called the Men's League of the Lutheran Church of Monmouth.

The purpose of this organization was to be to try to interest all the men of the congregation in the church work. The following officers were elected at the first meeting: President, Rev. T. A. Conrad; vice president, David Olson; secretary, Hilding Matson; treasurer, Salmer Linman.

This organization of the men of the congregation, with the assistance of the ladies at times, held a meeting once a month, and some very interesting and instructive meetings were held, consisting of talks by many outside speakers, discussions by the men of the church on topics concerning the church work, musical numbers, etc., and while this organization only remained active for about two years, we believe the congregation received much blessing from it, and we only wish that it could have continued its meetings longer, as we believe the men of the church need an organization of this kind.

It was about this time that the congregation commenced the preliminary work of securing a new church building, and it was largely through the efforts of the Men's League that the congregation decided to build the new church on a more desirable location than the one where the old church stands. Many discussions were held at the meetings of the Men's League in regard to this change of location, and a committee was appointed by the League to investigate different sites which were available where we could erect a new church building.

During its two years of activity the Men's League received about \$85 in collections and membership dues, which together with accumulated interest was later turned in to the building fund.

On Sunday evening, February 17, 1918, after the close of the service, the men of the congregation again got together and organized a society which was called the Lutheran Brotherhood of the First Lutheran Church of Monmouth, Ill. The object of this organization was to be to bring the men of the church into closer fellowship with each other, to work together for the local church, and also to work in co-operation



CHOIR.

with the Lutheran Brotherhood of America, to further the religious, moral and social well-being of our Lutheran boys in the service of the United States at the different cantonments, as well as upon the battlefield. In order to do this the Lutheran Brotherhood of America launched a campaign for about three weeks to raise a fund of \$750,000 to be used to erect buildings, supply camp pastors, etc., at the different camps, and our local Brotherhood, after a thorough canvass of all the members of our church, as well as many outside of our church, succeeded in raising about \$1,500 for this purpose.

The following were elected as officers of the Brotherhood for this year: President, Rev. Purn; vice president, Arvid Peterson; secretary, Alfred Linman; corresponding secretary, Mouretz Linman; treasurer, A. A. Johnson. The total membership of the Brotherhood at the present time is about 100.

Very interesting meetings have been held once every month, and while the attendance has not been what it should have been thus far, we hope that it will not be long until every man of the congregation will be an active member of the Brotherhood, and we are sure that it will result in much blessing to the congregation as well as to the men themselves.

MOURETZ LINMAN.

THE CHOIR

DURING the early years of our church we had no choir and no organist, but in 1875 an organ was purchased, for which the sum of \$40.50 was paid. Ellen Cassel was the congregation's first organist, being elected to the position in 1877. Previous to this time the singing was led by different individuals, but there was no choir. In 1878 Mr. Ernest Sandstedt was elected organist and served in this capacity until 1882, when Miss Mary Lindstrom took up the work and continued two years. Mr. Frank Johnson became the next organist, who also served two years, his salary being \$20 a year. In 1886 Miss Emma Stark was elected, and the salary was also increased to \$25 per year, and the following year, 1887, Miss Mary Lindstrom again played for us. In 1888 Miss Stark was elected again and continued until 1891. In 1892 Mr. Frank Johnson was elected at a salary of \$50, continuing this time until 1894. The following year Mrs. Rev. Johnson and Miss



JUBILEE CHORUS.

Mathilda Olson had charge of the work, and in 1896 Miss Olson took charge at a salary of \$75 per year, holding the position until 1899, and during this time a new organ was purchased. In 1900 Miss Mary Hagman began her duties and continued to serve the congregation faithfully for many years. Following Miss Hagman's resignation, Miss Ruth Pearson served as organist for three years. In 1908 a new pipe organ was installed, which has indeed been a great help to us in all our choir work. After Miss Pearson gave up the work, a call was extended to Prof. E. J. Swanson of Superior, Wis., who accepted and stayed with us until October, 1915, resigning to take a position at De Kalb, Ill. Miss Florence Peterson of Galesburg was the next to serve, remaining with us from the fall of 1915 until January, 1918. Miss Amy Granelund of Rock Island was then called, beginning her duties in February, but was unable to remain with us for more than a few weeks, so we had to look around for another organist. Prof. Carl Alexis of Lincoln, Neb., was chosen by the church board, and a call was extended to him. Prof. Alexis accepted the call and began his duties in May, 1918, and we sincerely hope that he will remain with us permanently.

The first choir was organized in 1883, and although it has been hard at times to keep the choir together, nevertheless they have furnished music nearly every Sunday for many years. Some of the members have been very faithful, coming to practice on Friday evenings, singing in the choir on Sundays year after year. Others have come and gone after being members a few weeks or months. At the present time there are about twenty active members in the choir.

Under the able leadership of Prof. Alexis we hope that the choir may increase both in membership and faithfulness, and that all members will do their utmost to serve both God and their church in the years to come.

OLGA MATSON.

JUBILEE CHORUS

THE Jubilee Chorus is a musical organization which was organized on Monday evening, July 23, 1917, in the Luther Room of our church, with about fifty young people present, growing to sixty members in a very short time. The following officers were elected: President, Arthur Anderson; vice president, Alfred Linman; secretary, Miss Mildred Levine; reporter, Alfred Linman; treasurer, Frank Stark;

custodians, Lillian Swanson (soprano), Anna Sanderholm (alto), Algot Bowman (bass) and Arvid Peterson (tenor). Rev. Oscar Purn was elected director and Miss Florence Peterson organist.

The chorus gave its first concert on October 31, 1917, in our church, when the cantata, "The City of God," which was written especially for the quadricentennial of the Protestant Reformation which our church was celebrating at that time, was rendered to a large audience. The chorus also sang on Christmas morning, 1917. The soloists in the chorus were as follows: Miss Esther Johnson and Mrs. Oscar Purn, sopranos; Mr. Arthur Anderson, bass; Mr. Arvid Peterson, tenor.

The intention of this chorus is to at least once a year give some cantata or sing at different festivities and thereby to awaken interest in the musical part of our church work.

ALFRED LINMAN.

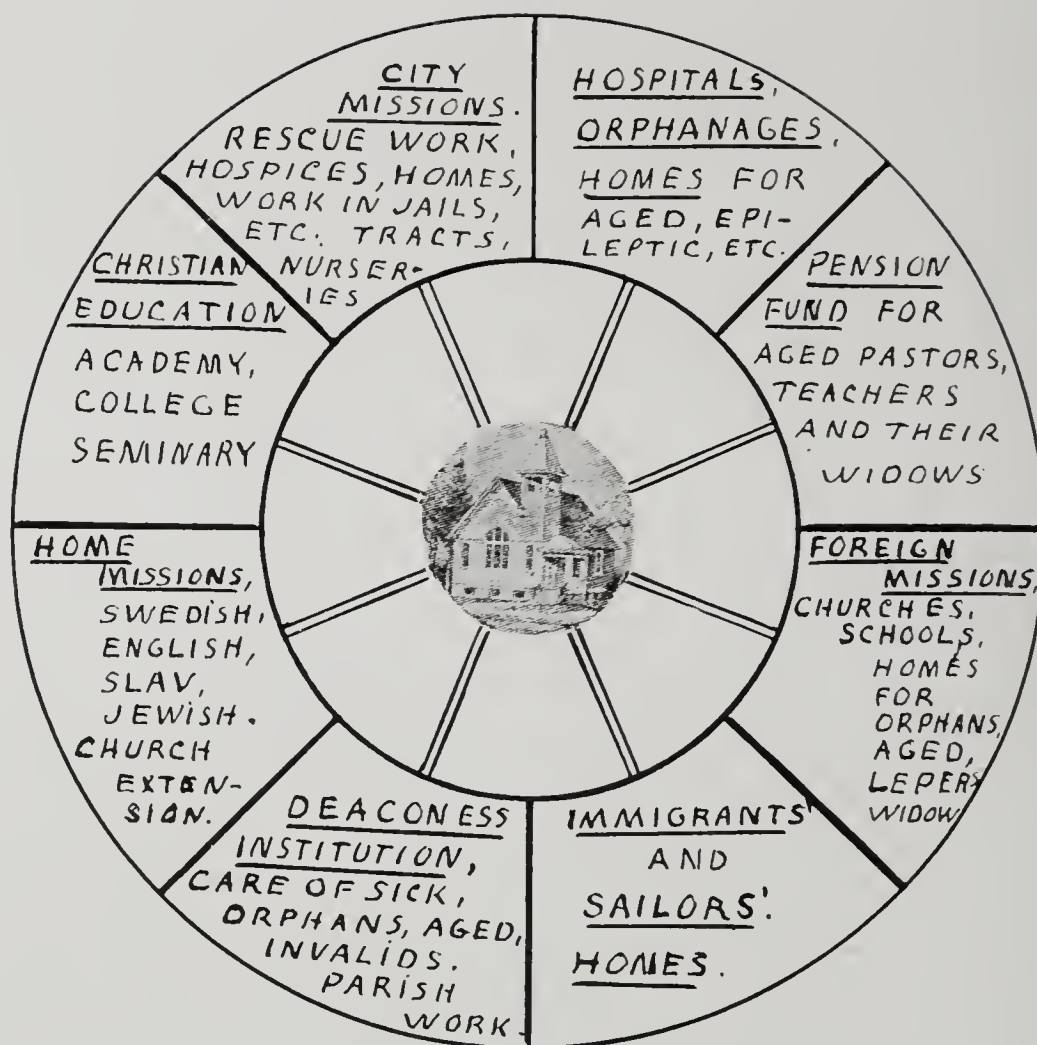


MALE QUARTETTE.

Alfred Linman, Arvid Peterson, Arthur Anderson, Pastor Oscar Purn.



EDITING AND MANAGING STAFF OF JUBILEE SOUVENIR.



THE CONGREGATION'S CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE

THE local congregation is a center from which power goes out to the ends of the earth. He who takes an active part in church work is engaged in an enterprise which is world-wide, and which is productive day and night, year in and year out, to the end of time.

While the local church may be closed most of the time during six days of the week, its work goes on just the same. The influences set in motion by the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments are active in the daily life of the Christian. He strives "to do justly, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with his God."

Besides this, the money which he has contributed for the benevolent and mission work of the Church is busy on its many errands of Christian service. Besides assisting in local works of charity, it is building churches and schools, carrying on the work of Christian education, caring for the immigrant and the sailor, the aged, the orphan, the sick and the dependent, the epileptic and other afflicted at home and abroad, is preaching

the Gospel to the heathen in India, China, Japan and Porto Rico, and on the home mission field to the scattered brethren of the household of faith, to the Slavs and to the Jews; is doing rescue work in the great cities with their slums, jails and reformatories, etc. Is it not a splendid work that is thus going on day and night, at home and abroad? Is it not a great *privilege* that God permits us to have a part in the work of His busy Vineyard? What a wonderful, divine Enterprise!

There is no organization, society, lodge or fellowship on earth which can even begin to compare with the Church in the magnitude, importance, and pure charity of its works. He who belongs to the Church is multiplying his capacity for service to his fellowmen manifold. There is practically no limit to its development. When he has given of himself and of his means to the Lord's cause, as far as he is able, then those whom he has been instrumental in bringing into the Kingdom will take up the work, and will multiply his influence by their own works generation after generation, in ever widening circles. Praise be to God for His Church, which is not only the Ark of our salvation, but also a Vineyard where we may serve Him!—*My Church.*





CHURCH OFFICERS

I. DEACONS.

- 1868—John Beck 2 years, Olof Nelson 2 years, Åke Nelson 1 year, Nels Holm 1 year.
- 1869—Åke Nelson 2 years, T. Nordgren 2 years.
- 1870—John Holmberg 2 years, Anders Svenson 2 years.
- 1871—Åke Nelson 2 years, J. O. Peterson 2 years, B. Hulin 1 year.
- 1872—P. Zetterberg 2 years, C. Wist 2 years.
- 1873—Swen Möller 2 years, Gustaf Wist 2 years, M. Cassel 1 year, Louis Johnson 1 year.
- 1874—J. S. Olson 2 years, John Ekenbom 2 years.
- 1875—T. Themanson 2 years, Nels Holcomb 2 years.
- 1876—John Ekenbom 2 years, J. S. Olson 2 years.
- 1877—Åke Nelson 3 years, Louis Johnson 3 years, O. S. Olson 2 years, C. G. Peterson 2 years, G. Stark 1 year.
- 1878—Gust Stark 3 years, A. L. Martin 3 years, G. Sanden 2 years, A. G. Holmberg 1 year, J. S. Olson 1 year.
- 1879—J. S. Olson 3 years, A. G. Holmberg 3 years.
- 1880—Nels Johnson 3 years, Gustaf Sanden 3 years, Fred Ahlstrand 1 year, Nels Holcomb 2 years.
- 1881—T. Themanson 3 years, Gustaf Stark 3 years.
- 1882—Andrew Nelson 3 years, J. S. Olson 3 years.
- 1883—James Erikson 3 years, Nels Holcomb 3 years.
- 1884—Gustaf Stark 3 years, N. Anderson 3 years.
- 1885—J. S. Olson 3 years, S. J. Lindstrom 3 years, Nels Johnson 1 year.
- 1886—Nels Johnson 3 years, Chas. Hult 3 years, Andrew Nelson 1 year.
- 1887—Gustaf Stark 3 years, Swan Johnson 3 years, Peter Möller 2 years, Nels Fillman 1 year.
- 1888—J. S. Olson 3 years, Nels Fillman 3 years, August Hagman 2 years.

- 1889—Nels Johnson 3 years, James Erikson 3 years, Swan Mattson 2 years.
- 1890—August Hagman 3 years, C. P. Miller 3 years.
- 1891—J. S. Olson 3 years, Sven Johnson 3 years.
- 1892—Gust. Stark 3 years, John Monson 3 years, A. L. Martin 1 year.
- 1893—John Strand 3 years, Chas. P. Miller 3 years.
- 1894—J. S. Olson 3 years, A. W. Lindegren 3 years.
- 1895—Gustaf Stark 3 years, John Monson 3 years.
- 1896—John Strand 3 years, August Hagman 3 years.
- 1897—J. S. Olson 3 years, A. W. Lindegren 3 years.
- 1898—Swan Johnson 3 years, Gustaf Stark 3 years.
- 1899—John Strand 3 years, August Hagman 3 years.
- 1900—A. W. Lindegren 3 years, C. G. Peterson 3 years.
- 1901—A. L. Martin 3 years, A. A. Johnson 3 years.
- 1902—John Strand 3 years, O. N. Levine 3 years.
- 1903—Fred Anderson 3 years, J. E. Gagnelius 3 years.
- 1904—A. L. Martin 3 years, J. S. Olson 1 year, Swan Johnson 1 year, S. N. Linman 3 years.
- 1905—Swan Johnson 3 years, C. A. Johnson 3 years, C. P. Miller 1 year.
- 1906—J. E. Gagnelius 3 years, J. S. Olson 3 years.
- 1907—A. L. Martin 3 years, Gus T. Melburg 3 years.
- 1908—Swan Johnson 3 years, Swan Linman 3 years.
- 1909—W. H. Olson 3 years, August Hagman 3 years.
- 1910—J. L. Martin 3 years, Abraham Bergren 3 years.
- 1911—S. N. Linman 3 years, John Nelson 3 years.
- 1912—W. H. Olson 3 years, August Hagman 3 years.
- 1913—A. A. Carlson 3 years, J. O. Nelson 3 years.
- 1914—S. N. Linman 3 years, John Nelson 3 years.
- 1915—August Hagman 3 years, A. L. Martin 3 years.
- 1916—A. A. Carlson 3 years, J. O. Nelson 3 years.
- 1917—J. A. Swanson 3 years, A. A. Olson 3 years, Mouritz Linman 1 year.
- 1918—J. E. Stark 3 years, Mouritz Linman 3 years.

2. TRUSTEES.

- 1868—Peter Ringdahl 2 years, Gustaf Wedelin 2 years, Johannes Jacobson 1 year.
- 1869—Peter Call 2 years.
- 1870—Louis Johnson 2 years, James Larson 2 years.

- 1871—John Beck 2 years, Måns Cassel 2 years.
1872—B. Hulin 2 years, A. Nelson 2 years.
1873—T. Nordgren 2 years, Ola Olson 2 years.
1874—Nels Johnson 2 years, Gustaf Stark 2 years.
1875—Gustaf Wedelin 2 years, O. S. Olson 2 years.
1876—John Fred 2 years, Nels Johnson 2 years.
1877—Nels Holcomb 2 years, S. J. Lindstrom 2 years.
1878—Olof Swenson 3 years, John L. Martin 3 years, Louis Martin
2 years, T. Themanson 1 year.
1879—T. Themanson 3 years, Nels Holcomb 3 years.
1880—Gustaf Stark 3 years, J. S. Olson 3 years.
1881—Olof Swenson 3 years, John Lundell 3 years.
1882—Nels Holcomb 3 years, Fred Ahlstrand 3 years, Thomas Thulin
2 years.
1883—Swan Mattson 3 years, Gustaf Stark 3 years.
1884—Thomas Thulin 3 years, Nels Johnson 3 years.
1885—Gust A. Ahlstrand 3 years, James Erikson 3 years.
1886—Gustaf Stark 3 years, A. L. Martin 3 years.
1887—N. P. Nelson 3 years, Thomas Swanson 3 years.
1888—August Hagman 3 years, Theodore Ekstrom 3 years.
1889—A. L. Martin, Thomas Thulin.
1890—Gust Melburg 3 years, N. P. Nelson 3 years, John Martin 1 year.
1891—John Monson 3 years, S. N. Linman 3 years.
1892—A. A. Johnson 3 years, O. N. Levine 3 years.
1893—Thomas Thulin 3 years, Martin Jacobson.
1894—Swan Linman 3 years, John Blomgren 3 years.
1895—O. N. Levine 3 years, A. A. Johnson 3 years.
1896—John Nelson 3 years, Chas. P. Miller 3 years.
1897—Swan Linman 3 years, W. H. Olson 3 years.
1898—A. L. Martin 3 years, Gust Nelson 3 years.
1899—John Nelson 3 years, Chas. P. Miller 3 years.
1900—Swan Linman 3 years, W. H. Olson 3 years.
1901—J. S. Olson 3 years, Louis N. Levine.
1902—John Nelson 3 years, John A. Swanson 3 years.
1903—Oscar Fredrickson 3 years, W. H. Olson 3 years.
1904—Alfred Linman 3 years, Nels Levine 3 years.
1905—John Swanson 3 years, John E. Stark 3 years.
1906—Nels Murk 3 years, Frank Johnson 3 years.
1907—Alfred Linman 3 years, Nels Levine 3 years.

- 1908—John A. Swanson 3 years, J. E. Stark 3 years.
 1909—Chas. Dahlgren 3 years, Roy Newman 3 years, J. W. Pearson 2 years.
 1910—Alfred Linman 3 years, George Oberg 3 years.
 1911—J. A. Swanson 3 years, J. W. Pearson 3 years, Chas. Isaacson 3 years.
 1912—Chas. Dahlgreen 3 years, Chas. Strand 3 years, F. A. Johnson 3 years, Axel Larson 1 year.
 1913—Alfred Linman 3 years, Edward Hanson 3 years, Nels A. Swanson 3 years.
 1914—J. W. Pearson 3 years, Chas. Isaacson 3 years, F. A. Stark 3 yrs.
 1915—Chas. Dahlgreen 3 years, Alfred Melburg 3 years, A. A. Johnson 3 years.
 1916—Emil Lauger 3 years, Fred L. Nelson 3 years, Carl Swanson 3 years.
 1917—J. W. Pearson 3 years, Chas. Isaacson 3 years, W. J. Newman 2 years, F. A. Stark 3 years.
 1918—Chas. Dahlgreen 3 years, A. A. Johnson 3 years, Elmer Carlson 3 years.

3. SECRETARIES.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1868—Olof Nelson. | 1885—Fred Ahlstrand. |
| 1869—Johannes Jacobson. | 1886—Fred Ahlstrand. |
| 1870—Anders Nelson. | 1887—August Hagman. |
| 1871—Anders Nelson. | 1888—August Hagman. |
| 1872—N. Nordling. | 1889—August Hagman. |
| 1873—O. S. Olson. | 1890—August Hagman. |
| 1874—O. S. Olson. | 1891—August Hagman. |
| 1875—O. S. Olson. | 1892—Gus T. Melburg. |
| 1876—O. S. Olson. | 1893—Gus T. Melburg. |
| 1877—C. G. Peterson. | 1894—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1878—J. P. Lundell and
J. S. Olson. | 1895—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1879—J. S. Olson. | 1896—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1880—Fred Ahlstrand. | 1897—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1881—Fred Ahlstrand. | 1898—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1882—Fred Ahlstrand. | 1899—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1883—Fred Ahlstrand. | 1900—A. A. Johnson. |
| 1884—Fred Ahlstrand. | 1901—A. A. Johnson. |
| | 1902—A. A. Johnson. |

1903—O. N. Levine and
A. A. Johnson.
1904—A. A. Johnson.
1905—A. A. Johnson.
1906—A. A. Johnson.
1907—A. A. Johnson.
1908—A. A. Johnson.
1909—A. A. Johnson.
1910—A. A. Johnson.

1911—A. A. Olson.
1912—A. A. Olson.
1913—A. A. Olson.
1914—A. A. Olson.
1915—Mouritz Linman.
1916—Mouritz Linman.
1917—A. A. Olson.
1918—A. A. Olson.

4. TREASURERS.

1868—John Beck.
1869—John Beck.
1870—John Beck.
1871—Måns Cassel.
1872—John Beck.
1873—B. Hulin.
1874—Nels Johnson.
1875—Nels Johnson.
1876—Nels Johnson.
1877—Nels Johnson.
1878—Nels Holcomb.
1879—Nels Holcomb.
1880—Nels Holcomb.
1881—Nels Holcomb.
1882—Nels Holcomb.
1883—Nels Holcomb.
1884—Nels Johnson.
1885—Nels Johnson.
1886—Nels Johnson.
1887—N. P. Nelson.
1888—N. P. Nelson.
1889—N. P. Nelson.
1890—Thomas Thulin.
1891—Thomas Thulin.
1892—Thomas Thulin.
1893—O. N. Levine.

1894—O. N. Levine.
1895—O. N. Levine.
1896—O. N. Levine.
1897—O. N. Levine.
1898—John Nelson.
1899—John Nelson.
1900—John Nelson.
1901—John Nelson.
1902—John Nelson.
1903—John Nelson.
1904—W. H. Olson.
1905—W. H. Olson.
1906—W. H. Olson.
1907—J. E. Stark.
1908—J. E. Stark.
1909—J. W. Pearson.
1910—J. W. Pearson.
1911—J. W. Pearson.
1912—J. W. Pearson.
1913—Alfred Linman.
1914—Chas. Dahlgreen.
1915—A. A. Johnson.
1916—A. A. Johnson.
1917—A. A. Johnson.
1918—A. A. Johnson.

5. ORGANISTS.

1868—	1895—Mrs. Rev. Johnson and
1869—	Mathilda Olson.
1870—M. P. Zetterberg.	1896—Mathilda Olson.
1871—M. P. Zetterberg.	1897—Mathilda Olson.
1872—Mrs. N. Nordling.	1898—Mathilda Olson.
1873—Mrs. N. Nordling.	1899—Mathilda Olson.
1874—John Eckenbom.	1900—Mary Hagman.
1875—John Eckenbom.	1901—Mary Hagman.
1876—John Eckenbom.	1902—Mary Hagman.
1877—Ellen Cassel.	1903—Mary Hagman.
1878—Ernest Sandstedt.	1904—Mary Hagman.
1879—Ernest Sandstedt.	1905—Mary Hagman.
1880—Ernest Sandstedt.	1906—Mary Hagman.
1881—Ernest Sandstedt.	1907—Mary Hagman.
1882—Mary Lindstrom.	1908—Mary Hagman.
1883—Mary Lindstrom.	1909—Mary Hagman.
1884—Frank Johnson.	1910—Ruth Pearson.
1885—Frank Johnson.	1911—Ruth Pearson.
1886—Emma Stark.	1912—Ruth Pearson.
1887—Mary Lindstrom.	1913—Emil J. Swanson.
1888—Emma Stark.	1914—Emil J. Swanson.
1889—Emma Stark.	1915—Emil J. Swanson.
1890—Emma Stark.	1916—Florence Peterson.
1891—Emma Stark.	1917—Florence Peterson.
1892—Frank Johnson.	1918—Amy Granlund and
1893—Frank Johnson.	Carl Alexis.
1894—Frank Johnson.	

6. SEXTONS.

1868—	1877—Members in routine.
1869—	1878—Members in routine.
1870—	1879—Members in routine.
1871—O. J. Peterson.	1880—Members in routine.
1872—O. J. Peterson.	1881—Members in routine.
1873—N. Rotting.	1882—Members in routine.
1874—N. Rotting.	1883—Thomas Thulin.
1875—Members in routine.	1884—James Erikson.
1876—Members in routine.	1885—James Erikson.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1886—James Erikson. | 1903—John Mattson. |
| 1887—James Erikson. | 1904—John Mattson. |
| 1888—Sven Gummarson. | 1905—John E. Stark. |
| 1889—Sven Gummarson. | 1906—John Mattson. |
| 1890—Sven Gummarson. | 1907—John Mattson. |
| 1891—Sven Gummarson. | 1908—John Mattson. |
| 1892—Sven Gummarson. | 1909—John Mattson. |
| 1893—Sven Gummarson. | 1910—John Mattson. |
| 1894—Sven Gummarson. | 1911—John Mattson. |
| 1895—Sven Gummarson. | 1912—John Mattson. |
| 1896—Sven Gummarson. | 1913—John Mattson. |
| 1897—Sven Gummarson. | 1914—J. E. Stark. |
| 1898—Sven Gummarson. | 1915—J. E. Stark & S. O. Matson. |
| 1899—August Hagman. | 1916—J. E. Stark & S. O. Matson. |
| 1900—John Mattson. | 1917—J. E. Stark & S. O. Matson. |
| 1901—John Mattson. | 1918—J. E. Stark & S. O. Matson. |
| 1902—John Mattson. | |





AUGUSTA COLLEGE AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

STATISTICS

Year	Material	Parsonage	Value	Parish-ioners		Baptized	Confirmed	Received	Removed	Deceased	Dropped	Excommunicated	Married	Parochial School		Sunday-School	Synodical Treasury	Augustana College	Home Missions	Foreign Missions
				Communicants	Total Number									Teachers	Scholars					
1868			\$	15	40												\$	\$	\$	\$
1869				60	100	5		60	1											
1870	frame		500	60	100	3														
1871	frame		1,000	60	100	8							4							
1872	frame		1,000	87	150	21		35	8	1			1	1		10	1			
1873	frame		1,000	100	169	10	10	16	13	3			1	1		16	1		8.80	
1874	frame	lot	1,200	92	162	6		19	6	3	5		2	1		10	1		15.00	
1875	frame	lot	1,200	80	134	7		12	10	3	13		2	1		10	1			
1876	frame	lot	*																	
1877	frame	h. & lot	2,000	93	153	12	8	16	8	4	14		3	1		10	1		6.10	4.00
1878	frame	h. & lot	2,000	103	172	5	6	13	6	4	4		1	1		10	1		3.07	3.07
1879	frame	h. & lot	2,000	75	142	4		6	10	2	25			1					3.64	
1880	frame	h. & lot	2,000																	
1881	frame	h. & lot	2,000	70	110	5	10	5	5	1	8			10		15	10	1		
1882	frame	h. & lot	2,000	96	147	3		34	2	2	5		2	8		15	18	1		17.50
1883	frame	h. & lot	2,000	101	160	8		8	2		1			10	1	20	20	1		24.00 7.80
1884	frame	h. & lot	2,000	107	167	6	10	6	4	4	8			10	1	24	20	1		24.00
1885	frame	h. & lot	2,600	135	220	29		41	1	1	9			8	1	25	30	6	5.00	31.90 10.11 19.47
1886	frame	h. & lot	3,000	154	241	24	16	41	22	1	8	1	6	6	1	28	30	6	3.00	42.50 21.45
1887	frame	h. & lot	3,000	149	238	28		7	4	2	8		1	8	1	29	30	5	7.70	98.10 23.42 12.75
1888	frame	h. & lot	3,000	143	250	28	5	41	8	2	24		6	6	1	23	35	7	7.45	37.25 25.59
1889	frame	h. & lot	3,000	158	288	36		37	9	3	3		8	8	1	25	35	6		24.20
1890	frame	h. & lot	3,000	164	318	45		32	9	4	3	1	3	8	1	24	40	7	7.15	35.75 36.10
1891	frame	h. & lot	*																	
1892	frame	h. & lot	3,000	182	327	30	12	23	8	3	14		6	6	1	25	40	7		73.00 29.70
1893	frame	h. & lot	4,500	193	336	22	13	19	18	3	11		11			40	9		23.00	35.50
1894	frame	h. & lot	4,500	183	328	27		10	13	3	10		6	8	1	38	65	9		21.45 39.85 7.00
1895	frame	h. & lot	5,000	195	331	22	14	13	9	2	7		5	8	1	25	65	9	1.80	
1896	frame	h. & lot	5,000	200	348	30		21	5	7	5		13			65	10	1.25	83.75	32.98 10.00
1897	frame	h. & lot	5,000	223	354	32	24	24	6	2	5		10	8	1	26	65	10	1.55	50.00 12.69
1898	frame	h. & lot	5,000	224	364	23		12	5	5			5	8	1	25	75	11	1.10	52.51 12.00
1899	frame	h. & lot	5,000	223	361	26	19	4	4	1	19		6	8	1	36	70	11	1.60	52.25
1900	frame	h. & lot	5,000	210	354	27		7	12	3	5		6	6	1	22	70	11	2.00	55.82 18.40
1901	frame	h. & lot	5,000	234	372	29	15	21	10	2			5	6	1	24	70	12	1.90	52.50 1.82 19.71
1902	frame	h. & lot	5,000	246	375	17	18	9	8	2	2		4	6	1	17	70	12	2.20	65.10 1.38 7.94
1903	frame	h. & lot	8,000	265	400	31	12	33	5	5	5		5	8	1	22	70	12	3.71	61.50 13.17
1904	frame	h. & lot	8,000	272	425	14		37	8	5	5		5	8	1	52	90	14	4.61	66.25 41.97
1905	frame	h. & lot	8,000	314	456	15	29	49	22	3	1		8	8	1	23	90	14	8.16	876.00 4.80 89.34
1906	frame	h. & lot	8,000	321	458	26		26	17	1	3		9	8	1	25	90	14	9.42	81.62 3.00 16.08
1907	frame	h. & lot	12,500	330	460	15	21	22	13	5	4		5	5	1	11	80	17	9.63	80.25 25.00
1908	frame	h. & lot	15,000	360	540	30	14	69	4	7	1		5	4	1	28	17	90	9.90	82.50 11.65 50.00
1909	frame	h. & lot	15,000	370	548	15		27		7	11		10	8	1	25	17	90	10.80	90.00 260.00
1910	frame	h. & lot	20,000	400	569	22	20	34	12	6			12	5	1	35	17	90	11.10	92.50 54.32 161.06
1911	frame	h. & lot	20,000	425	622	23	20	44	8	7	8		12	8	2	42	17	100	12.00	100.00 24.60 105.00
1912	frame	h. & lot	25,000	450	636	11	17	36	12	2	9		18			16	100	12.75	305.00	10.00 100.00
1913	st & br	h. & lot	60,000	475	688	16	24	35	3	5		6	2	4	1	34	12	90	14.60	112.50 18.45 140.00
1914	st & br	h. & lot	65,000	500	702	11	12	22	4	3	8		10	8	1	20	15	100	13.50	118.75 175.75 137.50
1915	st & br	h. & lot	65,000	525	721	20	34	22	10	6	11		7	8	1	35	18	100	15.00	118.75 60.00 166.00
1916	st & br	h. & lot	65,000	530	728	17		10	8	5			11	8	1	35	18	100	15.75	125.00 73.00 206.21
1917	st & br	h. & lot	65,000	556	734	15	22	30	14	6			8	8	1	22	20	237	21.20	273.75 5.00 336.40
				875	405	1,038	365	146	282	8	244	252					215.83	3,465.95	791.23	1,961.60

* No statistics.

1868-1918

Immigrant Missions	Pension Fund	Deaconess Institute	Church Extension Society	Conference Missions	Orphans' and Old Folks' Homes	Hospital	Salaries	To Synod	To Conference	To Congregation	Grand Total	Pastor
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	470.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	435.00	C. Walline, v.p.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	457.00	C. Walline, v.p.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,210.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	476.00	E. Peterson ...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.14	E. Peterson ...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.64	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	471.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	466.00	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	1.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,046.58	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	885.79	Vacant
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	794.75	J. E. Floren...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	865.10	J. E. Floren...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	796.44	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	643.21	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	900.87	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	738.33	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	809.76	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,726.82	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	818.73	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	45.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,269.83	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	48.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	888.94	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	.....	26.18	20.82	.....	775.00	66.24	47.00	1,047.36	1,160.60	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	1.30	44.60	28.35	3.33	865.00	181.32	76.28	1,385.47	1,643.07	A. Johnson
.....	3.55	.....	1.38	41.80	25.20	42.35	805.00	99.22	109.35	933.28	1,141.85	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	1.71	49.26	24.42	5.00	885.75	106.93	106.56	1,108.21	1,321.70	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	3.00	45.91	34.55	11.70	1,008.75	143.93	96.52	1,177.91	1,418.36	A. Johnson
.....	.....	.....	2.00	58.50	57.65	.....	972.00	107.46	123.28	1,408.80	1,639.54	A. Johnson
.....	1.50	.....	4.04	61.50	25.75	2.07	886.05	127.17	89.32	1,859.23	2,075.72	A. Johnson
.....	1.60	.....	2.50	66.25	120.18	4.26	941.90	140.57	229.93	2,682.89	3,053.39	A. Johnson
.....	2.50	.....	3.34	81.60	35.10	4.01	938.10	1,077.79	171.46	1,648.31	2,897.56	A. Johnson
.....	2.37	.....	4.35	109.90	25.85	3.72	930.00	219.64	139.47	1,705.57	2,064.68	A. Johnson
.....	4.50	.....	4.57	112.35	36.77	8.93	1,314.00	142.03	170.05	8,057.11	8,369.19	T. A. Conrad..
.....	4.38	.....	3.63	115.50	71.48	5.00	1,210.00	179.78	307.58	5,387.64	5,875.00	T. A. Conrad..
.....	6.83	.....	4.02	135.00	128.70	7.70	1,600.00	996.49	321.01	2,474.63	3,792.13	T. A. Conrad..
.....	4.00	6.32	4.65	119.50	92.50	6.10	1,500.00	350.87	246.28	6,882.18	7,479.33	T. A. Conrad..
4.00	20.54	6.66	5.30	140.00	106.00	5.90	1,600.00	301.07	380.20	2,438.31	3,119.58	T. A. Conrad..
8.50	54.00	7.60	14.00	348.00	106.25	30.47	1,506.00	633.13	548.71	8,516.06	9,697.90	T. A. Conrad..
8.60	39.75	7.00	11.35	157.50	112.50	21.22	1,613.72	468.25	366.08	30,358.72	31,193.90	T. A. Conrad..
8.15	40.75	22.50	50.00	30.00	118.75	12.24	2,070.00	618.39	237.23	29,748.46	30,604.08	T. A. Conrad..
20.00	43.25	20.00	8.33	125.00	125.00	14.75	2,119.65	493.73	280.76	6,414.76	7,189.25	T. A. Conrad..
21.00	46.00	21.00	5.76	131.25	131.25	13.65	2,010.00	646.31	459.63	6,105.02	7,210.96	T. A. Conrad..
21.20	57.90	44.28	5.30	212.00	159.00	8.80	2,433.90	1,007.98	405.62	8,544.95	9,958.55	Oscar Purn
91.45	333.42	135.36	140.52	2387.50	1590.07	211.20	27,974.82	8,108.30	4,912.32	129,884.87	160,585.42	

PROGRAM

för Femtio-årsjubileum i Första Evangelisk Lutherska
Församlingen i Monmouth, Illinois
September 13-15, 1918

FREDAGEN DEN 13 SEPTEMBER KL. 8 E. M.

HÖGMÄSSOGUDSTJÄNST.

1. Psalmen nr 268.....FÖRSAMLINGEN
2. Altartjänst....PASTORERNA J. A. JOHNS OCH DAVID LAURENCE
3. Gradualpsalm nr 421: 3—5.....FÖRSAMLINGEN
4. Sång—Davids 150 psalm.....*Wennerberg*
JUBELKÖREN.
5. Predikan—Text: Luk. 10: 38—42.....PASTOR F. A. JOHNSON
6. Short Cantata—"The Lord Reigneth".....*Schnecker*
JUBILEE CHORUS.
7. Sermon—"Words for Evil Days," Eph. 5: 15—21.....
.....PASTOR A. C. YOUNGDAHL
8. HälsningFÖRSAMLINGENS PASTOR
9. Pålysningar.
10. Psalmen nr 272.
11. Altartjänst.

LÖRDAGEN DEN 14 SEPTEMBER.

- Kl. 9 f. m. Distriktets affärsmöte.
- Kl. 10 f. m. Samtal öfver Augsбургiska bekännelsens tjugonde artikel:
Om rättfärdigheten och goda gärningar.
Inledare: pastor C. E. Olsson.

- Kl. 12 mid. Gemensam middag serveras af Dorkas-föreningen.
 Kl. 2 e. m. Predikan af pastor F. R. Carlson.
 Sång—Kvartetten.
 Fortsättning af samtalet.
 Kl. 6 e. m. Mottagning för prästerskapet i prästgården.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 10:30 A. M.

COMMUNION SERVICE.

1. Hymn No. 223: 1—3.....CONGREGATION
2. Preparatory Sermon.....PASTOR WALDO EKEBERG
3. Liturgy.....PASTORS N. E. KRON AND GIDEON OLSON
4. Hymn No. 302.....CONGREGATION
5. Anthem—"Even Me" (*Warren*).....CHURCH CHOIR
6. Predikan.....PASTOR TITUS A. CONRAD
7. Anthem—"Seek Ye the Lord" (*Roberts*).....CHURCH CHOIR
8. Announcements.
9. Hymn No. 231: 1—2, and Liturgy.
10. Hymn No. 222, and Liturgy.

SUNDAY, 3 P. M.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICE.

1. Hymn No. 187.....CONGREGATION
2. Scripture Reading and Prayer.....PASTOR G. OLSON
3. Anthem—Hark, Hark, My Soul! (*Shelley*)....JUBILEE CHORUS
4. Address.....PASTOR PETER PETERSON, Chicago
5. Anniversary Offering.
6. Hymn No. 93: 1—3.....CONGREGATION
7. Tal.....PASTOR T. A. CONRAD
8. Duet.....MRS. OSCAR PURN AND A. V. PETERSON
9. Historical Sketch.....THE PASTOR
10. Hymn No. 193: 1—2, and Benediction.

SUNDAY, 8 P. M.

SACRED CONCERT.

1. Organ Prelude and Processional.
2. Scripture Reading and Prayer.....PASTOR W. P. ANDERSON
3. Organ—a. Toccata and Fuga in D Minor.....*Bach*
 b. Prelude.....*Wagner (Arr. by Warren)*

PROF. CARL ALEXIS.

4. The Cantata "The City of God," by *Reed-Matthews*, rendered by the JUBILEE CHORUS, assisted by Octette. Soloists: Esther Johnson, Mrs. Oscar Purn, T. L. Rydbeck and A. V. Peterson.
5. Short Address.....PASTOR PETER PETERSON, Chicago
6. Closing Remarks—The Pastor of Congregation and the President of the District.
7. Benediction.



